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Japan

Hata Lauds U.S. Emphasis on Asia-Pacific

OW1108084993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0840 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata on Wednesday [11 August] lauded the U.S. Government and Congress for placing importance on the security of the Asia-Pacific region, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Officials said Hata made the statement during some 40 minutes of talks with U.S. Rep. Gary Ackerman, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee for Asian and Pacific Affairs in the House of Representatives.

It was Hata's first meeting with a foreign guest since he assumed on Monday the dual posts of foreign minister and deputy prime minister in the seven-party coalition government of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa.

Officials said Ackerman told Hata that congressional leaders attach great importance to relations with Japan and that various efforts are being made to ensure they remain good and close.

He said that while the U.S. is cutting military spending, congressional leaders understand well that the U.S.-Japan security relationship is "critical" for peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

Ackerman said that because the region is experiencing rapid economic growth, and a number of other changes are taking place, it is all the more important to ensure stability.

For that reason, he said, the United States must maintain its forward military deployment in the region and not reduce its military presence.

Ackerman said the choice of former U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale as the next ambassador to Japan reflects the weight Washington places on relations with Tokyo.

Officials said Hata urged continued bilateral cooperation and expressed appreciation for the U.S. commitment to security in the Asia-Pacific.

Hata said that while a number of domestic changes will be effected under the Hosokawa administration, there will be continuity in Japan's diplomatic and security policies.

In response to Ackerman's invitation to visit the U.S. and consult with congressional leaders, officials said Hata replied that he would like to make the trip as soon as possible.

Ackerman, a representative from New York, arrived in Japan on Monday for a three-day visit. The 50-year-old Democrat met earlier in the day with representatives of the Defense Agency and parliamentary leaders.

LDP Criticizes Hosokawa for Lack of 'New Concepts'

OW1008131093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1249 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 10 KYODO—The Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) slammed newly inaugurated Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on Tuesday [10 August] for seeking to inherit key national policies from the LDP and thus failing to present a fresh policy approach.

"He only talked in abstract terms about the policies our party has formulated," LDP Secretary General Yoshiro Mori said. "There were no new concepts or freshness."

The conservative party, toppled from power for the first time in 38 years, plans to ask the seven-party coalition government about its specific policies after Hosokawa delivers a speech outlining his administration's goals on August 23, Mori said.

Touching on Hosokawa's pledge to see through political reforms centering on electoral changes and tighter curbs on political funding by the end of the year, LDP Acting Secretary General Shigeru Kasuya said it is not clear how the prime minister would push through the reforms.

He said the LDP will decide what action to take after the government has come up with an outline of its political reform strategy to be unveiled by the end of August.

The coalition parties have in principle agreed to hammer out an electoral reform plan under which 250 House of Representatives seats would be chosen from single-seat districts and 250 would be elected by proportional representation, political sources said.

With this formula the number of the lower house seats would be reduced to 500 from the current 511.

Mori, however, noted the need to decrease the number of key chamber seats more drastically, saying the LDP intends to present to the Diet as a counterproposal an electoral reform plan where 300 seats would be picked from single-seat constituencies and 171 by proportional representation.

Regarding Hosokawa's remark that he will take responsibility if he fails to achieve reform by the self-imposed deadline, a senior LDP official said, "it is natural for him to do so because his cabinet is political reform-oriented."

On the other hand, some LDP legislators are concerned about the possibility that the LDP will also be blamed if political reform is not carried out as a result of bickering between the ruling coalition and the opposition LDP.

"If (Hosokawa) fails to complete the biggest task for the new administration, his leadership will be over," said Otohiko Endo, vice chairman of Komeito's policy board.

However, not a few legislators among the coalition parties voiced dissatisfaction with Hosokawa's negative stand on possible income tax cuts to stimulate Japan's stagnant economy.

The Social Democratic Party [of Japan], Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party all pledged to reduce income tax in their campaigns for the July 18 general election, in which the LDP failed to win a majority in the lower house.

Hosokawa Holds News Conference 10 Aug

OW1008085993 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0500 GMT 10 Aug 93

[News conference by Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa with unidentified correspondents at the prime minister's official residence in Tokyo—live]

[Text] [Video shows Hosokawa reading from the prepared text of a statement before fielding questions from reporters] I am Morihiro Hosokawa. I was recently elected prime minister in the Diet. One year has passed since I resolved to play my part in changing Japanese politics. During the past year, on numerous occasions I was encouraged by people from all walks of life across the nation. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the people for giving me fresh impetus.

I was recently tasked with responsibility, and the weight of that responsibility is unmeasurable. My cabinet does not simply aim to remain in power, but aims to open prospects for a new era in Japan. It is my cabinet's mission. I have recently defined my cabinet as one formed with the aim of bringing a change to Japanese politics.

The global bipolarization—with the United States and the Soviet Union in the lead during the cold-war era—inevitably resulted in the bipolarization of Japanese politics, but the longstanding cold war has become a thing of the past. I feel the results of the latest general elections showed that the people opted for a political system that makes it possible for Japanese politics to make realistic policy options, and makes it possible for political parties to break with the rival and confrontational politics that prevailed during the cold war. I would like to confirm, together with the people, that the old era has gone and a new era is being opened toward the 21st century.

We are asked to build a new house for a new era at a time when Japanese cold-war politics is crumbling, having played its part. We will have to work on laying the foundation for the house; the people expect us to do so. That is the historical mission tasked to us. Among other things, we will have to win back the people's confidence in politics. To that end, it goes without saying we will have to deliver political reform after having bills related to political reform enacted in the Diet as quickly as possible. We will do this by promoting national reconciliation. This can be achieved by curing domestic political wounds inflicted by the cold war. I feel it is most important for both ruling and opposition parties to shift their relationship from confrontation to dialogue, from mutual distrust to mutual trust, and from opposition only for opposition's sake to competition for constructive purposes. The ruling and opposition parties should put aside their bitter feelings and work together to build new politics for the sake of the people. The ruling and opposition parties should not forget that they are a starting point for building new politics. I intend to set forth bold policies aimed at improving and stabilizing the lives of the people.

Japan is now faced with various global issues. I intend to make clear how Japan should make a clean slate of its past and reflect on its history. I am resolved to play a positive role in resolving global issues on the basis of peace and international cooperation.

My cabinet is the so-called coalition cabinet formed by eight political parties. Partners in the coalition government have agreed to continue with the existing important basic policies on foreign affairs, defense, the economy, and energy. We have declared this at home and abroad, and will uphold the consistency and continuity of national policy. I would like to pay my deepest respects to leaders of the eight political parties for their efforts to overcome their policy differences in the cause of a new era and the cause of political reform.

We are resolved to closely cooperate in managing state affairs in order to prove that the historic verdict given by the people during the latest general elections was correct. I would like to ask the people to give me deep understanding and assistance. [applause]

[Correspondent] We will now receive about 10 questions from the three representatives of the press corps.

First, concerning the greatest issue for the government—political reform—please tell us what you think of the schedule for passing the bills, when the outline of the bills will be formulated, when the extraordinary Diet session will be convened, and how long deliberations will take.

[Hosokawa] I am working for an early agreement among all the coalition parties in order to formulate the outline of the bills as soon as possible. I hope the bills can be submitted to the extraordinary Diet session for deliberation in the early part of September.

[Correspondent] Will passage of the bills come before the end of the year?

[Hosokawa] Oh, passage. As I have stated repeatedly, we will exert utmost efforts to pass the bills before the end of the year.

[Correspondent] About the substance of the proposed electoral system, the eight parties and groupings have agreed on a "heiritsu" system with 250 seats elected from single-seat constituencies and 250 by proportional representation. Mr. Prime Minister, do you plan to build a consensus based on this plan?

[Hosokawa] Basically, we will go by the 250-250 apportioning. We will take that as a basis and will try to reach agreement among the various parties based on it.

[Correspondent] Will the bills be formally proposed by the cabinet?

[Hosokawa] I do not know yet. The most important thing will be to come up with bills that all the parties can agree on. I would like to consider this after the substance of the bills is discussed thoroughly.

[Correspondent] The next question will be about the nature of the new administration. Recently you said in Karuizawa [Nagano Prefecture] that you were aiming at a "government with real powers" [honkaku seiken]. On the other hand, there has been talk of an "electoral system cabinet" or a "political reform cabinet." Eight political parties and groupings with different policies have come together to form a government. Naturally, it will have an unstable aspect. The common view is that after you achieve political reform centering on reform of the electoral system, you will have accomplished your mission; this will serve as a catalyst or a milestone for the reorganization of the political world. Some people say you will go on to your next goal after playing this role. When you said "government with real powers," what did you really mean?

[Hosokawa] Of course, to pass the political reform-related bills and eliminate the people's distrust of politics will be the greatest mission. However, right now, there is the problem of disasters. We will also have to draw up the budget. We also have to deal with economic stimulus measures and various domestic and international issues, such as Japan-U.S. relations. Needless to say, political reform is not the only mission of this administration.

I believe that the results of the recent election show that the people desire change and a fresh start. We will continue with the good aspects of the previous administration and correct what needs to be rectified. Rather, I should say we will continue with the good aspects of past politics and correct what needs to be rectified. More than anything else, we aim to be an administration that can act as responsively as possible for the stability and betterment of the people's livelihood.

[Correspondent] You mean that even after electoral system reform is accomplished, you will aim at having a stable administration?

[Hosokawa] I have not thought that far.

[Correspondent] Next, let me ask a few questions about the coalition government.

The coalition is made up of seven parties and one grouping. In view of the differences in basic policies among these groups, there is criticism that this is a parquetry, or a glasswork, or even worse a "yago" [alliance of convenience]. How would you respond to such criticism?

[Hosokawa] This is the first time in Japanese history for a coalition to be formed by eight political groupings. It is true some may be a bit concerned. However, I think this is an inevitable process in the transition to Japan's political maturation. Naturally, we will have to exert efforts to eliminate such concerns as soon as possible.

The eight parties and groupings have signed a basic agreement on major policies. They have also said they will continue with the basic policies of the previous administration. In this aspect, we will cooperate and effectively coordinate amongst ourselves, and will exert efforts so that we can take responsive and adequate policy measures.

[Correspondent] You have said....

[Hosokawa interrupts] I am sorry. You have mentioned the criticism about a "yago." As I have just said, this is not a "yago." We have reached a clear basic agreement on this point. We have confirmed our understanding of the historical significance of this coalition government.

[Correspondent] The cabinet lineup of the coalition government was announced yesterday. As it shows, main cabinet posts—foreign minister, finance minister and minister of international trade and industry—were given to members of Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party]. Some people think Shinseito has the initiative in the government, and that it is a dual structure of power. Can you comment on this?

[Hosokawa] That is not true. It was an allocation based on the right man for the right job. The cabinet lineup is a result of this principle.

[Correspondent] What I am about to ask may sound rude, but some people think that although you have experience as governor of Kumamoto, you lack in a career with the central government. Can you comment on this? Also, can you explain how you are planning to display your leadership?

[Hosokawa] What you have said may be true, indeed. But capable people from each party have joined the cabinet. As a person who has the supreme decision making power, I will reflect my opinions in administrative matters as much as possible while exhibiting my own natural abilities.

[Correspondent] It is said that you asked Ichiro Ozawa, representative secretary of Shinseito, to join the cabinet. What do you think of him?

[Hosokawa] Since Mr. Ozawa is a capable man, I asked him to join the cabinet. Many Shinseito candidates won in the recent election. They received much support from the people. I assume you were referring to Ozawa's responsibility [in relation to his involvement in the Sagawa Kyubin scandal]. He clarified this at his Diet testimony. In any case, he said he would resign if problems come up. I believe what he said.

[Correspondent] I would like to ask a question about budget allocations. Your government agreed to maintain the fundamental policies of the previous government. Does the Hosokawa coalition plan to reflect its own characteristics in the budget?

[Hosokawa] We will finish accepting rough budget requests from the ministries at the end of August, and will start drawing up the fiscal 1994 budget in September. We will try to finish drawing up the budget by the end of this year. However, I will try my best to reflect my administration's own color in the budget. Although the financial situation is tight, I will allocate money as much as possible for qualitative improvement of the people's life by correcting the ossified method of budget allocations.

[Correspondent] My question is about income tax reduction. It seems the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ], Komeito, and other parties have changed their opinions on this matter. But they have called for an income tax reduction in the past. For some time, the SDPJ has insisted on reducing the defense budget. Can you comment on this?

[Hosokawa] My understanding it that circumstances do not allow us to trim the tax rates because the financial situation is currently tight. Regarding the defense budget, the previous government approved a plan late last year to reduce the budget for the Mid-Term Defense Program. Again, the financial situation is tight. These are tasks I have to study thoroughly in the future.

[Correspondent] The SDPJ, which assumes a cautious stance on nuclear power plants, is also a member of the coalition government. What is your policy on nuclear energy?

[Hosokawa] I think this issue boils down to the matter of achieving a balance between utilization of versatile energy resources and a time schedule. In other words, it is a matter of making realistic decisions. Of course, we have to pay thorough attention to nuclear power safety. My fundamental view is that we have no choice but to think realistically.

[Correspondent] I would like to talk about financial measures. A huge revenue deficit is expected. Somehow, the government has to cover this shortage. Are you going to issue deficit covering bonds or increase the rate of the consumption tax to create a financial resource to cover this shortage?

[Hosokawa] No, my administartion has no intention of issuing deficit-covering bonds. We already have a deficit of 184 trillion yen, so we must avoid as much as possible reliance on special public bonds. The issue of consumption tax rates must be studied within the framework of the overall tax system. I am not going to increase it as an economic measure.

[Correspondent] What is your opinion on the possibility of reviewing the ratio between direct and indirect taxation?

[Hosokawa] This is a matter that will be discussed by the Tax Commission. This possibility may come up during the course of discussions. Anyhow, I will study the overall balance of the tax system while observing discussions at the commission.

[Correspondent] I would like to change the topic to diplomatic matters. What is your fundamental stance regarding Japan-U.S. ties, which are a foundation of Japan's diplomacy?

[Hosokawa] As you have said, Japan-U.S. ties are truly a foundation of Japan's diplomacy. It is a matter of course to exert efforts to keep smooth relations as we have been doing, or to make the ties smoother than before. Japan-U.S. ties are not only matters between the two countries but also a concern to the entire world. Therefore, I would like to pay close attention to smooth steering of the ties between both countries.

[Correspondent] I would like to ask you about solving the trade imbalance between Japan and the United States, which is the major pending issue. What do you think of it?

[Hosokawa] Both countries have to exert mutual efforts regarding this matter. However, Japan has to maintain economic growth led mainly by domestic demand. Also, we have to face such issues as easing regulations, promoting policies that value consumers, and expanding [market] access. The United States also has to do something about reducing its financial deficits. I heard the deficit-reduction bill has passed the House. It is also necessary for the United States to face its tasks with a midterm point of view, such as the need to strengthen its industrial competitive power.

[Correspondent] To solve these issues at an early date, do you have any concrete plans to visit the United States to meet with President Clinton?

[Hosokawa] A session of the UN General Assembly [UNGA] is scheduled to be held in late September. But a Diet session is also scheduled at that time. I will study whether I can visit the United States then and watch the situation in the Diet session. Moreover, I heard that the United States has called for a conference of APEC [Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation] in late November. I will study the possibility of attending the conference and watch the Diet session at the same time.

[Correspondent] I would like to change the subject to relations with Russia. Russian President Boris Yeltsin is scheduled to visit Japan in October. The Japanese Government has taken a stance of maintaining the principle of "expanded equilibrium" [economic cooperation should be promoted in accordance with progress in talks on the territorial issue]. Please tell us your opinion about the overall policy toward Russia.

[Hosokawa] The first thing is to sign a peace accord after settling the territorial issue. By doing that, we can completely normalize our ties. The second thing is that we will support Russia's efforts at home. Japan will give appropriate aid to Russia. Taking these issues into consideration, we are now coordinating President Yeltsin's visit to Japan.

[Correspondent] You referred to Japan's appropriate aid. Do you have any concrete plans?

[Hosokawa] No, I have not yet worked out aid plans in concrete terms.

[Correspondent] How about concrete steps to pave the way for normalizing relations between the two countries?

[Hosokawa] I can only say that Japan will persistently undertake efforts to deal with the issues that I just stated.

[Correspondent] The Social Democratic Party of Japan has joined the coalition government. Does the cabinet take Japan's conventional stance on the so-called five principles regarding PKO [peacekeeping operations] activities?

[Hosokawa] In a statement on the basic agreement by the parties in the coalition government, we stated our intention to maintain the conventional policies taken by the former cabinet. We will contribute under the PKO Cooperation Law, including the five principles.

[Correspondent] You earlier hinted at the possibility of attending the UN General Assembly session set for this fall. It is expected that the issue of giving Japan a permanent seat on the UN Security Council [UNSC] will be brought up. In this connection, I would like to ask whether you will positively tackle this issue.

[Hosokawa] I do not know what "positively tackle" means. I do not intend to make positive moves toward seeking a permanent UNSC seat. But if Japan, which has fulfilled its role in international society, becomes a UNSC permanent member in its natural course, I will welcome that. Moreover, it is desirable that the issue, a major theme that concerns the revision of the UN Charter, be discussed at the UNGA session. Japan should positively join in that discussion.

[Correspondent] In that case, there is a possibility that Japan will be urged by other nations to expand its cooperation in UN PKO activities. What do you think of this?

[Hosokawa] I understand that a permanent UNSC seat and PKO cooperation are totally different issues.

[Correspondent] I would like to ask about economic issues. What schedule or policies does the Hosokawa administration have to conclude the Uruguay Round talks?

[Hosokawa] As a maritime nation, maintenance of the free trade system is in the greatest national interest. Therefore, it is a matter of course for Japan to exert efforts for a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round. A statement on the need for conclusion of the talks within the year was issued at the Tokyo summit held in July. Moreover, negotiations will be resumed in Geneva in late August. Japan intends to continue its efforts to conclude the Uruguay Round talks within the year.

[Correspondent] From the viewpoint of public interest, the issue of opening the rice market is one of the focal points. What do you think of this issue?

[Hosokawa] There is a Diet resolution that opposes the liberalization of the rice market, and the eight parties have reached an accord on this issue. Therefore, taking these into consideration, I intend to deal with this issue.

[Dean of the press corps] We now begin a question-and-answer session. Any news companies who have questions, please go ahead.

[Correspondent] The coalition government was established after [words indistinct]. The people have said it is hard to understand what kind of politics the new government is aiming for and what it is going to do from now on. The people are expecting much from the new government. But at the same time, they are anxious about it. What do you think of this?

[Hosokawa] As I said earlier, this is the first time in Japanese politics that a coalition government made up of eight parties has run the nation. It is inevitable that some people are anxious about the new government. I will make an all-out effort to pursue politics that are easy to understand.

[Correspondent] Do you have any specific plan to make your policies known? For example, are you considering having this kind of news conference more frequently or delivering speeches to the people?

[Hosokawa] I am going to devise measures to make my policies known.

[Correspondent] Earlier you said the eight-party coalition was a transitional government. The Japan New Party [JNP] which you established regards itself as a new conservative party. What kind of political system have you in mind for future Japanese politics? More precisely, are you considering a two-party system by two conservative parties? If the electoral system is reformed, will the coalition partners cooperate in elections to defeat the Liberal Democratic Party?

[Hosokawa] I have neither said that the JNP is conservative or reformist, nor a new conservative party. I have carefully avoided using such words as conservative and reformist. We should not separate political parties into these two groups. We should go beyond this framework and develop a new framework for the new era. That is what I have always said. Concerning the future political system, I am not sure whether adopting a two-party system is a good thing. I personally feel that a moderate coalition made up of many parties—eight or 10 parties may be too many—can meet diverse public values. In connection with the handling of political reform-related bills, the coalition partners will have to discuss the issue concerning whether or not they should cooperate in elections. I am also interested in how the outcome of the discussion will affect political parties and their power balance.

[Correspondent] Do you think the heiritsu electoral reform plan will lead to a two-party system?

[Hosokawa] The chief cabinet secretary specializes in this issue. Anyway, by appropriately setting the ratio between single-seat constituencies and proportional representation, we will be able to reflect people's various opinions on the outcome of the elections. The heiritsu plan does not necessarily lead to a two-party system.

[Correspondent] In political reform or electoral reform discussions, the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors [words indistinct]. If the heiritsu plan is adopted for the lower house, that house may possibly become like the upper house. What do you think of this? Also, the reapportionment of Diet seats has been a key issue in electoral reform discussions. The LDP and the Japan Communist Party have proposed reducing the number to the initial 471 seats. What do you think of this?

[Hosokawa] The Diet will have to discuss the issue of the electoral system for the upper house in the future. For the time being, however, it has to concentrate on the issue of revising the lower house electoral system. The reapportionment of Diet seats is a controversial issue. We are not certain that 471 seats is appropriate considering Japan's population of 120 million. Some argue that Japan needs more Diet seats. In fact, some countries have more seats than Japan. This matter should be discussed at such forums as the Political Reform Promotion Council. The Diet will also conduct a full deliberation.

[Correspondent] Japan is continuing its trade surplus with various foreign countries. How important is it for the Hosokawa administration to reduce the surplus?

[Hosokawa] I believe it is one of the priority issues. I commented earlier on specific measures to cut the surplus. I also mentioned such measures as expanding domestic demand, deregulation, promoting policies that emphasize enhancing Japan's quality of life, and expanding foreign market access. What we should do is continue tenacious efforts to realize these goals.

[Correspondent] Japan maintains its basic stance that it will promote free trade policies while taking a stand against rice market liberalization. Do you think the two stands are inconsistent?

[Hosokawa] As I said earlier, liberalizing the market is a matter the Diet should handle. Also, an agreement on this issues among eight coalition partners will be necessary. Taking this into account, I have to cope with this problem. I also must take into consideration the decreasing number of farming successors as well as the issue of whether Japan will be able to maintain self-sufficiency in its rice supply. While thoroughly examining these problems, I will have to tackle the liberalization issue.

[Correspondent] Forgive me for asking you about political reform again. You said you will achieve reform within the year. Can we regard this as a political pledge?

[Hosokawa] Yes, you can.

[Correspondent] If you fail to do so, are you determined to take political responsibility?

[Hosokawa] Yes.

[Correspondent] I want to ask you again about the issue of Mr. Ozawa. I get the impression from your earlier remarks that you think Ozawa has taken political responsibility. During the election campaign, JNP and Sakigake [Harbinger] members claimed he had not assumed responsibility. They said so in answering questions. After the change of government, you seemed to change your opinion. Why and when did you change your opinion? Do you or do you not think Ozawa has taken responsibility?

[Hosokawa] I never said he had not taken political responsibility. I said this was a matter Ozawa should judge himself.

[Correspondent] Mr. Ozawa said yesterday that if electoral reform is realized, the lower house should be dissolved for the general election. He made this remark without discussing it with you. What do you think of this?

[Hosokawa] I think dissolving the house should not be argued lightly. It is I who make the decision. Anyway, I just want to say that each person has his or her own thoughts.

[Correspondent] You said that you hoped to visit Kagoshima, which is suffering from torrential rain. Are you still hoping to do so?

[Hosokawa] The National Land Agency director general is scheduled to visit the region today. Other cabinet members may also visit. After having a clear grasp of the conditions there, I will decide whether to visit Kagoshima.

[Correspondent] You said you would clarify [words indistinct]. How are you going to reflect on Japan's past wrongdoings? I also have a question concerning the bill to support hibakusha [atomic bomb victims]. In the past, the former coalition parties jointly submitted the bill and were twice able to pass it through the upper house. I want to know how the new government will handle this bill.

[Hosokawa] I am going to faithfully study these issues that you mentioned.

[Correspondent] You said you would reflect on Japan's conduct during World War II. What is your opinion about the war?

[Hosokawa] I personally think it was an aggressive war, that it was an unjust war.

[Correspondent] Last week you said you would not make a policy speech. However, this week you agreed that the special Diet session be extended and that you should make a policy speech. What made you change your mind?

[Hosokawa] I did not say I would not make a policy speech. I said that an extraordinary Diet session should be convened as soon as possible, and that I would deliver a policy speech during the session. I said yesterday that at this moment the government had better prepare for submitting political reform-related bills, and for compiling a budget plan as this is an important time for compilation. But....

[Correspondent interrupts] So you did not make pre-election negotiations on Friday [6 August]?

[Hosokawa] Friday? What is the date today? Anyway, I did not mean I would not make a policy speech. The special session should deal only with issues concerning the formation of the lower house, such as electing the house speaker and the prime minister. I said the government should convene an extraordinary Diet session as early as possible where I will deliver a speech.

[Hosokawa] At what level and by whom will the coordination of policy differences between the eight coalition partners be made? Also, what will be the relations between the eight parties and the cabinet?

[Hosokawa] The coordination will be made at secretary-generals meetings, summit meetings, and working-level meetings. A cabinet meeting itself is like a summit of the coalition partners. By discussing the policy differences at various levels, we have to improve communications within the eight parties.

[Correspondent] My question is related to the issue of Japan's remorse for its wrongdoings during the war. The anniversary of the end of World War II is on 15 August. Do you intend to visit the Yasukuni Shrine in your capacity as prime minister?

[Hosokawa] Taking into consideration various past events, I should exercise prudence in dealing with this matter. After making a careful study, I will make a decision.

[Correspondent] There are disparities among cabinet members in views about this issue. Some members have said they would visit the shrine in their official or private capacities, while others have said they would not visit. Do you plan to form a unified cabinet opinion on this matter?

[Hosokawa] No, I do not.

[Correspondent] You mean you will let each cabinet member decide?

[Hosokawa] This is a matter concerned with each member's sense of value. Thus, I do not plan to form a unified opinion.

[Correspondent] Will you allow them to visit the shrine in their official capacities?

[Hosokawa] As I said earlier, I will carefully study this issue.

[Correspondent] I have a question about a court dispute over the Minamata disease. When you were the governor of Kumamoto Prefecture, you started talks for reconciliation with the plaintiff. At that time, you criticized the government for not participating in the talks. Now that you are the prime minister, do you have any plan to settle this court dispute?

[Hosokawa] Needless to say, it is desirable to settle the dispute as early as possible. I believe reconciliation is one measure to settle it. While taking into account past events, I will study in earnest the measures to solve this problem at an earliest date.

[Correspondent] I have two questions to ask you on foreign affairs. My first concerns the Japan-U.S. trade talks. Consultations on a framework will start in Washington next month. If the United States should make moves toward managed trade—such as demands for setting numerical targets—what measures do you plan to take? The other question concerns cooperation with the United Nations in its peacekeeping operations. What do you think of UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali's concept of creating the Peace Enforcement Forces [PEF]?

[Hosokawa] As I have said earlier, based on principles of free trade and market economy, I believe Japan and the United States should cooperate with each other to rectify the trade imbalance. This is what should be done. Speaking based on this view, I think setting numerical targets seems not to match with these principles.

With regard to Buturs-Ghali's PEF concept, the point at issue is the extent of PKO activities. I doubt whether it is all right for the secretary general to either expand or reduce the range of the PKO or PKF activities based on his own judgment. However, this is an issue that concerns the United Nations. As far as our nation is concerned, we have the five principles for peace. No, I mean the five principles [concerning PKO participation]. Since we have the five principles, I feel we should continue to act on the basis of these principles.

[Correspondent] What do you think of Japan's participation in PEF?

[Hosokawa] I don't think the time has come for us to take this issue into consideration.

[Correspondent] My question also concerns the PKO issue. The ruling parties participating in the coalition have various views on the PKO issue. Mr. Prime Minister, you yourself have long argued that another organization should be formed to participate in the operations. Do you still feel the same way? Also, if the United Nations should ask Japan to participate in PKO activities, what will be your basic position in dealing with the request?

[Hosokawa] I touched on this issue in my earlier answers. Based on the basic accord reached among ruling parties of our alliance, we pledge continuity in implementing policies. We will continue to deal with the issue based on the PKO Cooperation Law and the five principles. Personally, I have my own views. However, since we now have the basic accord, I will abide by this accord which clearly stipulates continuity in implementing the relevant policy.

[Correspondent] My question concerns the Minamata disease case [on compensations for victims of Minamata disease, a pollution-related disease]. Is it correct to assume that your feelings at present have not changed from what you felt when you were in charge of conciliation talks [when Hosokawa was Kumamoto governor]?

[Hosokawa] My feelings have not changed, but my position has. In this connection, I am in a very difficult position now.

[Correspondent] My question concerns reform of the electoral system. Mr. Prime Minister, you have just stated that it will be a political commitment, and that the extraordinary Diet session will be convened in early September. However, it seems no concrete plan has yet been decided on how to work out the framework of the related bill. What are the reasons for this?

On the other hand, a minister has been assigned to take charge of political reform in your cabinet. Your position has now become visible. Yet no substance has been made clear to us. Would you please explain the situation concerning this issue?

[Hosokawa] The cabinet has just been inaugurated. I feel we should speed up procedures as fast as possible. Have I answered your question?

[Correspondent] Yes. For example, there is a question as to whether the bill should be made a government proposal or a Diet members proposal. Why is it that no judgment has yet been made?

[Hosokawa] As I have just mentioned, it is because the decision involves various advantages and disadvantages. It is difficult to decide which one is more advantageous and desirable. However, I would like to make the decision as soon as possible.

[Correspondent] In concrete terms, what do you mean by advantages and disadvantages?

[Hosokawa] What I mean is whether the bill will be adopted sooner.

[Correspondent] Is that all?

[Hosokawa] Yes. That's right.

[Correspondent] I would like to ask about political reform and the so-called political schedule for dissolving the Diet. Of course, a prime minister has to decide the timing for dissolution, but I assume you intend to establish a new goal of political reform as soon as the political reform bills are approved. You will also face the task of giving priority to administering state affairs, for example diplomacy and economic management. What is your fundamental view about this?

[Hosokawa] I cannot comment on that at this stage because nobody knows what diplomatic tasks or domestic tasks will be at that time. However, we will have to deal with zoning bills, and we will need a period of informing the people [shuchi kikan] after approval of the political reform bills. These things have to be taken into consideration.

[Correspondent] Again I would like to ask a question regarding political reform. The Miyazawa administration was forced to step down because it failed to achieve political reform. You have appointed a member of the SDPJ to a state minister post in charge of political reform. Within the party, the LDP approved the heiritsu system [combination of single-seat electoral system and proportional representation]. However, do you think the coalition government will be able to convince the SDPJ to introduce the heiritsu system? Also, do you think you are prepared to take responsibility in case you fail to introduce the system?

[Hosokawa] As I have explained earlier, I am determined to take responsibility. I am hoping that member parties of the coalition government will also exert serious efforts.

[Correspondent] I do not mean to be persistent, but let me go back to the measures for atomic bomb victims. Health and Welfare Minister Ouchi said yesterday that he will treat this as a cabinet matter and engage in thorough discussions. How are you planning to tackle this matter?

[Hosokawa] I quite agree with the minister.

[Correspondent] What is your view regarding the Constitution. Can you comment on whether or not the Constitution should be revised?

[Hosokawa] I continue to respect the Constitution.

[Correspondent] Negotiations between Japan and North Korea have been suspended for some time now. What is your view on diplomacy with North Korea? Also, do you understand that the NPT [nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty] has been extended indefinitely? If yes, only the countries which are allowed to have nuclear weapons under the NPT will continue to have nuclear weapons. Can you comment on this too?

[Hosokawa] Concerning the NPT issue, as the foreign minister stated yesterday, Japan will respect the pact. I mean Japan will support the NPT's indefinite extension. This stand will, of course, have a great impact on relations between Japan and the DPRK.

[Correspondent] What about ties with North Korea?

[Hosokawa] My understanding is that this matter will have various impacts on our ties with North Korea.

[Correspondent] In the past, at a critical moment a prime minister refused to reply to parliamentary interpellations by taking advantage of the system which allowed him to refer a matter to bureaucrats. When and how are you planning to revise this system?

[Hosokawa] I do not know if we will be able to discuss this matter during Diet interpellations on bills related to political reform. It would be nice if we can.

[Correspondent] Do you think discussions will be made at the Budget Committee, for example, as was the case in the past if the matter is not brought to the Diet?

[Hosokawa] I feel it is unavoidable to a certain degree. I may not be able to answer to questions which call for various detailed facts. I will be able to answer such questions later on by showing data.

[Correspondent] Can we assume in such a way that fundamentally you will answer by yourself to important points?

[Hosokawa] It would be nice if we can do that immediately. But we will have to have thorough discussions at the Diet and within each party on whether we will be able to make an abrupt change in a way you have explained.

[Correspondent] I am going to ask about economic measures. What kind of concrete measures are you going to take for economic recovery, or are you planning to introduce additional economic measures?

[Hosokawa] The indices show a spotty economic situation. Some indices show good economic conditions and others show bad ones. In other words, the economic situation is spotty. Anyhow, I am concerned about the possibility of a prolonged economic slowdown. We have to overcome the aftermath of the bubble economy. The effects of the comprehensive economic measures which were introduced in April are yet to be felt. We have to make sure the economic measures will be steadily implemented.

[Correspondent] I would like to ask about your first policy speech. In the past, each ministry wrote a part of the prime minister's speech, then a prime minister would add something to it. Do you have plans to make fundamental changes in this method?

[Hosokawa] I wrote the speech I made today. I will try to reflect my own characteristic in my speeches as much as possible. Of course, each ministry and agency may have something they want me to include in my speech. I will reflect my own characteristics in my speech as much as possible.

[Correspondent] Although you are a Diet member, you are not wearing a Diet member's badge. Why?

[Hosokawa] I have to wear a Diet member's badge when I go to the Diet building, but I do not like to wear any kind of badge.

[Correspondent] Does that mean you do not like to show off authoritative power?

[Hosokawa] You may be right.

[Correspondent] What is the difference between the Hosokawa administration and LDP administrations of the past?

[Hosokawa] I think everything is different—characteristics, sensitivity, and way of administering government.

[Correspondent] What about concrete policies?

[Hosokawa] I think the policies are also different.

[Correspondent] What kind of concrete measures are you going to introduce to put an end to the so-called collusion between political, bureaucratic, and financial circles?

[Hosokawa] There are many ways to do that. I have been involved in mapping out proposals for the Council for Administrative Reform. The proposals which have been submitted so far include many good ideas. There are many things I have to do. It is a matter of putting them into action. I will do my best.

[Correspondent] The term of the Ad Hoc Council for Administrative Reform will expire in October. How are you going to promote administrative reform after that? Are you going to form a similar reform council to the ones in the past, or are you going to form a powerful council after completion of political reform?

[Hosokawa] I do not know what I will do about it. I will study it in the future.

[Correspondent] A minister said yesterday that even an elementary school pupil knows that existence the current Self-Defense Forces [SDF] goes against Article 9 of the Constitution. What is your opinion?

[Hosokawa] I am of the opinion that the SDF is not against the Constitution.

[Correspondent] You repeatedly mentioned the agreement made by the seven parties and one group. However, the people must be concern that an impasse in domestic politics might delay a prompt decision on international affairs. They will remember that the SDPJ, which has joined your coalition government, used delaying tactics such as the "cow walk" when the Diet voted on the Peacekeeping Operations Law last year. Can you tell the people anything which might ease their concern on this matter?

[Hosokawa] We, the seven parties and one group, have reached agreement and I am convinced that they will deal properly deal with this issue based on that agreement.

[Correspondent] You said earlier that the government would deal with the rice issue based on Diet resolutions and the agreement made by the seven parties and one group. Do you mean that the government may refuse to adopt rice tariffication?

[Hosokawa] I answered the question earlier.

[Correspondent] You said earlier you intended to administer state affairs by making the most of your personal characteristics. How will that affect the way you operate?

[Hosokawa] I will do what has to be done.

[Correspondent] Disclosure of information is necessary to make work on government policy as clear as possible. What do you think about a public information act?

[Hosokawa] I think that as many local governments have already introduced such a system, the government should positively study the idea.

[Correspondent] Could you tell us how much you have received in political donations from general contractors?

[Hosokawa] For myself?

[Correspondent] Yes.

[Hosokawa] I received donations from several construction companies in past, but no longer. I made a report on political donations based on the Political Donation Control Law.

[Correspondent] It was difficult for us to find out how you became prime minister. When did you decide to accept the offer for the position? I have one other question as well. There is a rumor that Mr. Ozawa asked you to become the prime minister when you met with him on 22 July. Is this true?

[Hosokawa] I cannot remember the specific date, because the situation changed drastically from day to day. I do not remember that. It goes without saying that not only Mr. Ozawa, but also the leaders of various parties and groups, asked me to become the prime minister in the final stages of our talks.

[Correspondent] When did you make the final decision to accept the nomination?

[Hosokawa] I cannot remember exactly, but I made the final decision at the last moment, probably on 27 or 28 July.

[Correspondent] Decentralization of government functions is a major issue in political reform. What, in concrete terms, is the priority task in tackling decentralization?

[Hosokawa] I do not know yet. But this is a major theme. The cabinet intends to tackle political reform as its priority. I hope that the government will create the right conditions for tackling decentralization, a major point of administrative reform, as positively as possible in the near future.

Hosokawa Calls WWII 'War of Aggression'

OW1008132893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1316 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 10 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on Tuesday [10 August] characterized the former Imperial Army's actions in World War II "a war of aggression," using the most candid description ever used by a postwar Japanese prime minister.

Asked by a reporter to describe his perceptions of the war at a news conference, Hosokawa, the grandson of prewar Prime Minister Fumimaro Konoe said, "I perceive it as a war of aggression. It was a bad war."

His remark came at a time when the new government's responses to war reparation demands from victims of wartime aggression have come under the international spotlight following a series of comments from coalition leaders on Japan's war guilt. Japan currently faces two class-action suits, in which a total of 25 Asian women claiming to be the victims of forced prostitution at military-run frontline brothels are demanding 20 million yen in compensation each.

On August 4, the government of former Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa acknowledged that the wartime military forced Asian women into serving as "comfort women," ending a half a century of official denials.

New Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata, who concurrently serves as deputy prime minister, told reporters Monday [9 August], "the important thing is to reflect upon the real trouble caused to Asia and apologize about it."

Asked to elaborate on his promise during a July election campaign to clarify Japan's war responsibility, Hata, head of Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party), said, "I was not speaking about the issue of war reparations by the government."

Hosokawa, who leads the seven-party coalition government, stopped short of making an explicit comment on the war reparations issue, saying, "from now on, I will consider the issue in detail."

In May 1992, Hosokawa wrote in a magazine essay that he would not repeat the mistake of "my grandfather, who failed to speak up when he should have," in reference to the late Konoe's failure to confront the wartime Imperial Army that invaded China in 1937 during his term as premier. Konoe, during whose 18-month tenure the Nanjing massacre took place, committed suicide in 1945 shortly after U.S. Gen. Douglas MacArthur, the supreme commander of the Allied Occupation Forces, ordered him tried on war crimes charges.

Hosokawa's comment on the Japanese military's role in World War II stood in sharp contrast with comments by former postwar prime ministers of the Liberal Democratic Party, which lost power in Friday's [6 August] Diet vote which gave Hosokawa the premiership.

When he was premier, Noboru Takeshita, responding to a Japanese Communist Party legislator's question on his perception of the war, said only, "it is impossible to deny the facts of actions resembling an aggression."

Asked whether he perceived the war as an act of invasion, Toshiki Kaifu, Miyazawa's predecessor, told the Diet, "I have such a perception"—without using the word "aggression."

Another former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, fielding the same question, told the Diet, "summing up, it is that." Nakasone, himself a former Imperial Navy officer, also stopped short of uttering the word "aggression." Nakasone later stirred up a parliamentary and international outcry by becoming the first postwar prime minister to visit the Yasukuni Shrine in his official capacity as premier on August 15, the anniversary of Japan's defeat in World War II.

Yasukuni enshrines as deities several wartime leaders, including wartime Prime Minister Gen. Hideki Tojo, who was convicted as a "class-A" war criminal by the Allied Occupation Forces' international military tribunal for the Far East and hanged.

Asked about the possibility of annual visits by LDP cabinet ministers to the shrine continuing, Hosokawa told the news conference, "I am not thinking of (taking a unified approach) for the cabinet, as whether to make such visits is up to the values of each individual."

Asked whether he would approve of a visit by members of his cabinet to the shrine on the upcoming August 15 anniversary, Hosokawa replied, "I will consider the issue cautiously from now on."

Government Considers Formal Apology for Asian Wars

OW1108124493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1227 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—Japan's new coalition government under Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa is considering establishing a Diet resolution to formally apologize for the wars Japan fought against Asian countries in the 1930s and 1940s, government sources said Wednesday [11 August].

In his first press conference Tuesday, Hosokawa made it clear he thought that during World War II Japan committed acts of aggression, though he qualified this as a personal view. His remarks on the war were in sharp contrast to comments by his predecessors in the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) during the postwar era.

The coalition government of seven parties has now embarked on preparing a Diet resolution aimed at expressing the country's remorse and apologizing for its "war aggression," the sources said. The parties have agreed to make a pledge to cooperate for peace and development of the world, and in particular Asia, based on its remorse over its wartime behavior.

Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata said in an interview that he wants the parliament to clarify the apology. Hata, concurrently deputy premier, has said Japan should reflect on the real trouble it caused in Asia and apologize for it. Takako Doi, newly elected speaker of the House of Representatives, is reportedly also positive toward adopting a Diet resolution apologizing for Japanese aggression in Asia. The government's attempt to adopt a resolution on the issue, however, might come to nothing if discussions with the LDP result in a conflict with the coalition parties, the sources said.

The Diet once mulled adopting a similar resolution in 1991 on the 50th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, when the Japanese Imperial Army made a surprise attack on U.S. forces in Hawaii. But nothing came of it owing to differences on the issue between the then ruling LDP and opposition parties.

On August 4, the government of former Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa acknowledged that the wartime military forced Asian women into serving as prostitutes at frontline brothels, putting an end to 50 years of official denials.

The new administration's stance on war reparation demands from victims of Japan's war aggression is drawing attention following a series of comments from coalition leaders on the country's war crimes. The idea of setting up a special fund for compensation for war victims in Asian countries has also emerged, the sources said.

Takemura: Coalition Government To Serve Full Term

OW1108095793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0949 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura said Wednesday [11 August] the seven-party coalition government will seek to serve a full term instead of calling fresh elections after enacting political reform legislation.

"We were endowed with a four-year term of office in the (July 18) general election. That means we are basically supposed to run the government for four years," Takemura said in an interview.

Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa has made political reform of electoral changes and tighter curbs on funding the primary task of his government, staking his political future on its success.

Takemura, 58, said the coalition would have no reason to dissolve the House of Representatives for another general election after political reform bills passed the Diet.

He said dissolution would only be carried out as an emergency measure.

"We basically hope that this government will hold on for as long a term as possible with the backing of the public," Takemura said.

On Japan's forcible recruitment of Asian women into wartime prostitution, the top government spokesman said Tokyo had long failed to express repentance.

Last week, the government of former Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa officially acknowledged the Japanese Imperial Army forcibly held such women in sexual servitude for its soldiers before and during World War II.

Lauding the Miyazawa administration for announcing the results of an official investigation into the "comfort women" issue, Takemura said the new government should study how to show its feelings of remorse.

The leader of the Sakigake (Harbinger) Party also said the Hosokawa government will not drastically change its Russia policy from that of previous administrations. He said Japan's financial assistance to Russia and settlement of a territorial dispute are separate issues.

The decades-old row over four islands off Japan's north has been the stumbling block to signing a World War II peace treaty and massive Japanese aid.

Takemura said the biggest difference between the Hosokawa government and its predecessors is the exclusion of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), which ruled Japan uninterruptedly for 38 years.

The LDP's failure to win a lower house majority in the election led to the formation of the coalition government led by Hosokawa.

"To be more specific, we can shake off the old customs nurtured by the LDP and take far more flexible political actions," said Takemura, who bolted the LDP on June 21 with nine other party defectors to create Sakigake.

Takemura is a close ally of Hosokawa, the two having known each other since when they were governors, respectively, of Shiga and Kumamoto Prefectures.

Spokesman Says Accord Near on Reform Plan

OW1108042593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0354 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—The seven parties of the ruling coalition may reach an accord on political reform plans as early as next week, Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura said Wednesday [11 August].

Touching on the main political task under the leadership of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, the top government spokesman said the coalition parties on Wednesday started working out differences on how to achieve reform by the end of the year.

"I will be delighted if the parties can reach an accord on basic matters regarding the issue around early next week," Takemura said in a joint press interview.

On Tuesday, Hosokawa said he will stake his political future on implementing by the end of the year a set of political reform bills aimed at changing Japan's parliamentary election system and tightening control on political funds to clean up corrupted politics.

Concerning a remark Hosokawa made Tuesday calling World War II a war of Japanese aggression, the chief cabinet secretary clearly said he shares the premier's view.

"I have every reason to believe that Japan went to other countries and did harm to a great number of their people, both physically and psychologically," Takemura said. "I firmly believe it was therefore a war of aggression."

He said the coalition government wants to contemplate what action should be taken to express Japan's remorse for its war responsibility on the basis of the premier's remark.

Mikazuki: Priority To Draft Anticorruption Law

OW1108105993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1015 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—Justice Minister Akira Mikazuki said Wednesday [11 August] the priority of the cabinet of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa is to draft a law on the prevention of political corruption.

Mikazuki, who is one of two nonpoliticians in the 21-member cabinet, told KYODO NEWS SERVICE the Japanese public will throw the cabinet out in a dust pan unless Hosokawa drafts a concrete proposal to prevent political corruption.

Japan has been rocked by a series of political scandals that eventually led to the breakup of the former ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and the end to its 38-year hold on power.

On Tuesday, Hosokawa indicated at a press conference that he would step down if he fails to get political reform through the Diet and pass it into law within the year.

The cabinet is preparing to present the Diet with political reform bills that would include revision of the electoral system, antipolitical corruption measures and control on political funds.

The bills submitted by the LDP failed to pass through an ordinary Diet session ending June 18, which triggered the July 18 election that resulted in the party losing its majority in the House of Representatives.

On the issue of World War II, Mikazuki said Japan must take responsibility for its aggression on Asia before and during the war.

"I have thought over decades that Japan should promptly apologize (to Asia for its war aggression) as Germany did," he said.

In a press conference, Hosokawa characterized the former Imperial Army's actions before and during WWII "a war of aggression," the most candid description ever used by a postwar Japanese prime minister.

Arrested Ibaraki Governor Takeuchi Resigns

OW1108055693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0541 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Mito, Aug. 11 KYODO—Ibaraki Prefecture Governor Fujio Takeuchi, under arrest on suspicion of taking bribes from a construction company, has resigned, officials said Wednesday [11 August].

The Ibaraki Prefectural Assembly endorsed Takeuchi's resignation for "personal" reasons that was tendered August 6, Assembly officials said.

Tokyo prosecutors arrested Takeuchi on July 23 on suspicion of receiving a 10 million yen bribe in February 1990 at his official residence in Mito from senior officials of Hazama Corp., Japan's leading construction company.

Takeuchi, 75, allegedly accepted the money as a reward for helping Hazama win two large public works projects—construction of a dam and a prefectural government office.

Okinawa Peace Group Hosts Antibases Meeting

OW1108013893 Naha NHK Radio in Japanese 2212 GMT 10 Aug 93

[From "NHK Radio News" program]

[Text] A conference to think about current issues on military bases in Okinawa will be held in Naha beginning today. This is sponsored by the Okinawa Prefecture Peace Movement Center.

In this meeting to be held for two days at Kankoro Chosa building at Asahi-machi, Naha, Okinawan representatives will report on problems associated with the presence of military bases—including those of U.S. troops conducting parachute training at Yomitan-son and live-round firing exercises over Prefectural Highway 104 at Kin-cho.

Representatives of antimilitary base groups in the Philippines and South Korea are also to speak at the conference, reporting on problems related to the presence of military bases in these countries.

Change Considered in Foreign Worker Policy

OW1008124893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1223 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 10 KYODO—Japan may reverse its labor policy and accept unskilled foreign workers, new labor minister Chikara Sakaguchi suggested Tuesday [10 August].

"I would like to examine with the sectors concerned the question of whether to accept more foreign workers in Japan, including those for simple manual labor," Sakaguchi said at a press meeting.

Japan has long maintained a policy of accepting only foreign workers who have special or technical skills.

Sakaguchi said, however, "It may become an international problem if Japan, as an economic power, does not accept unskilled workers from abroad."

Considering the rapid aging of Japanese society, Sakaguchi said it might become necessary to accept more foreign workers to cope with the inevitable labor shortage in the future.

The new labor minister also said it is a problem that employment of handicapped people, particularly of the seriously handicapped, has not increased very much.

He said he plans to submit an amendment bill to the next Diet session to improve government subsidies for housing and welfare facilities to help promote employment of handicapped people.

On a proposed plan to raise wages for working on holidays, Sakaguchi suggested he thinks wages should be higher for working on holidays than for overtime work on weekdays.

"I want to come up with a decision by the end of this year," he said.

Panel Proposes Review of 'Workaholic' Lifestyle

OW1108084093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0809 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—A Labor Ministry panel Wednesday [11 August] made proposals that would enable Japanese to stop being workaholics and live more varied, richer lives. In proposals submitted to the ministry, the panel urged both the private and public sectors to employ people who have done voluntary work for social and educational services. It said employers should make a positive assessment of people who have gained enriching experiences through hobbies, sports and voluntary work. The panel also called for a working environment where men can take holidays to care for their children or elderly relatives.

The ministry will submit the proposals to all other ministries, local governments, businesses and economic organizations to seek cooperation, officials said.

The panel, an advisory body to Women's Bureau Chief Nobuko Matsubara, was set up last November, the officials said. It comprises 23 members from the economic, sports, trade union and journalism worlds.

Jul Trade Surplus Posts Continued Growth

OW1108092193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0909 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—Japan's politically sensitive trade surplus posted a 31st consecutive year-on-year growth in July, the Finance Ministry reported Wednesday [11 August], two days after a multiparty coalition cabinet was formed in Japan.

A ministry official, briefing reporters, stressed the increase stemmed from price factors caused by the yen's rise against the dollar, and said it is difficult to predict future trends on the basis of the July surplus alone.

Many economists agreed, and said the yen's rise and the government's last economic stimulus package should start to push down the surplus from around the autumn.

The July surplus rose 28.0 percent from a year earlier to 11.82 billion dollars before seasonal adjustments, with exports rising 9.0 percent to 32.18 billion dollars and imports edging 0.4 percent higher to 20.37 billion dollars.

The dollar averaged 108.21 yen, falling 16 percent from 125.57 yen in the same month a year before.

The surplus was the largest ever for July and the third largest for a single month.

Both exports and imports rose for the fifth month in a row and were also the largest for July.

The ministry official said that notably rising among exports were ships, up 26.5 percent, stemming from construction of two large tankers. Declining sharply were semiconductor and electronics products, down 26.6 percent.

On the import list, the value of lumber imports, mainly from the United States, jumped 41.9 percent due to higher prices resulting from the yen's rise, while marine products rose 12.4 percent in value, the official said.

He said the value of aircraft imports were sharply lower, as well as those oil products and crude oil because oil prices fell.

On a country and region basis, Japan's surplus with the U.S. rose for the 16 straight month, up 22.7 percent to 4.68 billion dollars, while that with the European Community (EC) dropped 19.5 percent to 2.01 billion dollars.

The surplus with the newly industrializing economies (NIES) in Asia—Hong Kong, Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore and South Korea—rose 17.1 percent to 4.98 billion dollars.

Shipments of automobiles—Japan's major export item—to the U.S. rose 10.6 percent in value, while those to the EC and the NIES fell 27.1 percent and 1.1 percent respectively.

New Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa told reporters Tuesday that his government will take adequate measures to boost domestic demand to reduce Japan's trade surplus. But he was cautious about taking new fiscal and tax measures soon, noting the need to see the effects expected later in the year of the latest economic stimulus package, adopted last April.

Yozo Nishimura, economist at the Bank of Tokyo, said the effect on prices of the yen's rise is inflating the surplus in value terms although volume growth is not so great.

But the expected recovery in Japan's economy later this year will combine with the already visible effects of the yen's rise on export volume to help curb the trade surplus, he said.

Budget Growth Ceiling Set at 3 Percent

OW0808024793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0213 GMT 8 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 8 KYODO—The Finance Ministry plans to set a ceiling on general expenditures for fiscal 1994 of about 41 trillion yen, a growth of 3 percent from the initial fiscal 1993 budget, a major daily reported Sunday [8 August]. The limit is being set due to tight government fiscal conditions, the MAINICHI SHIMBUN said.

The ministry will enter full-scale negotiations with other governmental ministries and agencies following Monday's inauguration of new Prime Minister Morihiro

Hosokawa's administration, it said. The ceiling is to be set on their budget requests at a cabinet meeting on Friday.

The ministry also plans to hold Japan's official development assistance (ODA) for fiscal 1994, starting next April 1, to an annual growth of 6.5 percent, the same as in the current year, the paper said. It said the ministry plans a 10 percent reduction in ordinary expenditures compared with the original fiscal 1993 budget and an increase of 5 percent in investments such as public works aimed at stimulating the sluggish economy.

The ministry is also negotiating with the Defense Agency to freeze fiscal 1994 defense spending at this year's level, it said.

Adviser Urges 'Drastic Review' of Public Spending

OW1108055593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0533 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—The head of an advisory body to the finance minister said Wednesday [11 August] the government should undertake a drastic review of public works investments to make the best use of public funds.

Eiji Suzuki, chairman of the Fiscal System Council, told a news conference that he has urged Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa's cabinet to seek revisions that are not limited to specific ministries and agencies.

He said "drastic scrap-and-build" efforts, focusing on improving Japanese living standards, are required to make fund distribution more efficient.

He called for a comprehensive review of the budget, "namely public works spending," in order to meet the changing demands of society.

With regard to an ongoing debate about new social infrastructures, he suggested the government should consider changing the existing public works spending framework.

Suzuki also said Tokyo should try to improve living standards in Japan by resolving differences between domestic and overseas prices, which he blamed on a lack of competitiveness and excessive government involvement.

The government needs to avoid getting into a situation where it is forced to float deficit financing bonds, which would pass on the debt burden to future generation, he said.

Citing the government debt which is expected to reach 184 trillion yen by the end of the year, Suzuki recommended setting strict priority of official spending.

The nation's general operating expenditure for fiscal 1994, the core budget for defense, public works, and other major spendings, which excludes debt serving costs and grants to local governments, is expected to grow by 3.5 percent to 3.6 percent from the initial budget in the current fiscal year, the lowest in four years, the NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN reported Wednesday.

He was skeptical that income tax cuts would free the nation from the economic slowdown and instead emphasized the effectiveness of deregulation to prop up businesses.

The Hosokawa cabinet is expected to approve the "ceiling" or framework for the fiscal 1994 draft budget when it meets Friday.

Ministries will make their requests to the Finance Ministry by August 31, and if all goes smoothly the draft budget is expected to be approved by the cabinet in late December.

New TCCI Head Inaba Calls for Income Tax Cuts

OW1108085593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0847 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—Kosaku Inaba, new head of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry [TCCI], on Wednesday [11 August] called on the government of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa to carry out income tax cuts as soon as possible.

Inaba made the appeal in a letter handed to Hosokawa at the prime minister's official residence, government officials said.

The letter said the future course of the domestic economy is unpredictable in view of the rising value of the Japanese yen and called for an early implementation of income tax cuts, the officials said.

They said the letter did not mention how to generate funds for the tax cuts.

The letter also called for a substantial increase in and restructuring of outlays for the relief of small enterprises, they said.

Businessman Asks Hosokawa To Implement Reform

OW1108063493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0608 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—A business leader called Wednesday [11 August] on new Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa to implement political reform and take prompt steps to stimulate the economy.

Masaru Hayami, chairman of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai), met Hosokawa to deliver a letter outlining the views of Japan's business world.

The letter urged that political reform, combined with an election system change and anticorruption measures, be completed by the end of the year as pledged by Hosokawa, Doyukai officials said.

Referring to political donations, the letter said the business group will support Hosokawa's policy of allowing personal offerings in addition to public money for political activities.

But the letter said corporate donations, which are often blamed for creating cozy relations between the business and political worlds, can be accepted on condition it is for a limited period.

In response, Hosokawa said his cabinet will make every effort to realize the political reformation, according to the officials.

Hosokawa also said he believes his cabinet will be more flexible in compiling the national budget for fiscal 1994, they said.

As liberalizing the rice market, Hosokawa said the deadline for settling the issue is near and that more debate on the issue is needed, they added.

Business Sector Urges Hosokawa To Tackle Economy

OW1108050193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0441 GMT 11 Aug 93

[By Ikuji Nakaya]

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—Business leaders welcome the political change in Japan, and are urging reform-minded Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa to be aggressive in tackling economic issues.

Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the powerful Federation of Economic Organizations, hailed the transition from 38 years of Liberal Democratic Party rule as the "start of a new political era."

But Hosokawa's first order of business is to achieve political reform. He has staked his political future on it.

Beyond that, many people are beginning to question the efficiency of Japan Inc., the system that made it possible for the country's postwar economic miracle.

Dismantling the "iron triangle"—or the cozy tieup among politicians, bureaucrats and the business sector—will be a real test for the coalition government. It has been blamed for a string of corruption scandals involving politicians.

The new government also needs to tackle deregulation to make the Japanese market more open, revision of the tax system that excessively relies on direct taxes, and policies that will practically improve general living standards.

Most analysts agree that the administration's priority is to salvage the country from the worsening business slump, which shows no sign of recuperating. It will be more difficult to cure without timely action, private-sector economists say.

"The emergency topic is how to deal with slumbering business conditions," said Yukihiro Harada, managing director of the LTCB [Long-Term Credit Bank] Institute of Research and Consulting. He said the government must focus on the viability of income tax cuts to spur consumption while trimming the official discount rate to improve corporate sentiment as well as profitability.

Since government finances are tight, new Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii had ruled out the possibility of cutting tax merely to prime consumption. He said that would force the government to float deficit-financing bonds, which would simply pass the debt on to the next generation.

But Fujii said the Hosokawa administration will not shy away from tax reforms, where the major issue is to bring down the ratio of direct taxes to indirect levies.

Harada proposes that the government link the two issues by first floating short-term debts to cover an income tax reduction, linked with plans to redeem those bonds by raising the consumption tax from 3 percent. He said income tax cuts would put between 4 and 5 trillion yen back into the economy.

Atsushi Miyawaki, senior economist of the Japan Research Institute, supports the income tax scheme but for different reasons.

He is skeptical the measure itself would jolt the economy that drastically, but backs the idea since it could trigger comprehensive tax reform and eventually the reorganization of the fiscal system.

"If the government issues a short-term deficit-covering bonds with a time limit for its redemption, that will indicate it is willing to solve the tax reform within that period of time," Miyawaki said. "That would lead to presenting the country with a timetable for its economic reforms."

He said traditional pump-priming packages under the LDP had merely expanded the framework in place rather than reviewing it. Miyawaki said that could become the biggest difference between the old and the new governments in terms of fiscal stimulation packages.

The earlier the timetable is presented the better, he said, since it would give some sense of direction to business enterprises trying to plan for the year ahead.

Hosokawa told reporters on Tuesday [10 August] that he hopes to meet President Bill Clinton when he visits the U.S. to attend the U.N. General Assembly next month.

Japan has pledged to work to curve its soaring trade surplus and improve market access problems in government procurement, the insurance field and the auto business.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata has expressed opposition to setting numerical targets to measure progress, saying the issue should be solved under the principles of free trade.

"It may look as if it is an external problem," Miyawaki said. "But the truth is that the nature of the talks can be traced to purely domestic issues like deregulation."

"To trim the surplus and to prevent a further appreciation of the yen, the most effective remedy is to spur domestic demand," said the LTCB's Harada.

Yukio Takayama, senior managing director at Sakura Institute of Research, exhorted the Hosokawa administration not to set "taboos" like raising the consumption tax or issuing deficit-financing bonds.

Even debate on rice imports ought to be started afresh and "in a more visible manner for the people," he said.

"You cannot expect 100 percent completeness from a new administration. One should not be picking on small mistakes but rather, with full participation of the people, the government must strive to create a better Japan."

Keidanren Chairman Concerned About High Yen

OW1108122093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1129 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 11 KYODO—Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) Chairman Gaishi Hiraiwa on Wednesday [11 August] voiced strong concern over the rapid rise of the yen against the dollar.

Recent yen-dollar exchange rates have completely deviated from Japan's economic fundamentals and the trend will deal a heavy blow to Japanese corporations, Hiraiwa said in a statement.

He made the comment after the U.S. dollar sank to a new global low of 103.65 yen in Tokyo on Wednesday, eclipsing the previous low of 103.85 yen in New York last Thursday.

The U.S. currency came under further pressure in Wednesday's London trading, retreating to as low as 103.63 yen.

The government should urgently work out specific steps to expand Japan's domestic demand and open its markets, Hiraiwa said.

Steelmakers Plan To Share Furnace Repair Workers

OW1108072193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0705 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Osaka, Aug. 11 KYODO—Major steel mills on the inland sea coast of western Japan are working on plans to share subcontractor personnel for repair and maintenance of steelmaking furnaces, industry sources said Wednesday [11 August].

They said there is a serious shortage of experienced maintenance workers for blast and converter furnaces because of poor working conditions.

If one mill secures a large group of subcontracting personnel, others are forced to postpone furnace repairs, the sources said.

This would be the first cooperative efforts by steelmakers in this area.

The steel mills of Kawasaki Steel Corp., Kobe Steel Ltd., Nippon Steel Corp., NKK Corp. and Nisshin Steel Co. are considering participating in the scheme, the sources said.

Sumitomo Metal Industries Ltd. is also likely to join, they said.

Repair and maintenance is required every two months for blast furnaces and every month for converter furnaces. The work usually takes two days and requires about 1,000 workers.

North Korea

Planned 1994 Team Spirit 'Unfavorable' for Talks

SK1008144293 Pyongyang Korean Central Television Network in Korean 1130 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] A spokesman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] today announced a statement denouncing the recent agreement between the United States and the South Korean authorities to stage next year the adventurous Team Spirit joint military exercise against us, as well as the decision to wage the Ulchi Focus-Lens war exercise.

The statement pointed out that all fellow countrymen in the North, the South, and overseas are vigorously carrying out the struggle to accomplish the 10-point program of great unity of the whole country for national reunification, overflowing with ardent zeal to achieve the reunification in the 1990s by all means by successfully holding the Fourth Pannational Rally. However, the South Korean authorities, in collaboration with foreign forces, are advancing along the road of extremely reckless nuclear war [kukhi mumohan haekchongjaengui killo nagada] against fellow countrymen.

The statement revealed that at a meeting of the so-called policy (?information) committee of the annual security consultative conference held in the U.S. Pacific Command on 5 August, the United States and the South Korean ruling bunch agreed to again stage next year the adventurous Team Spirit joint military exercise against us, and on 6 August they decided to stage the Ulchi Focus-Lens exercise from 17 to 31 August. The statement denounced this as a grave challenge to the aspirations of the whole country for peace and reunification.

The statement noted that if the South Korean authorities advance along the road of nuclear war at last in defiance of our deserved warning, they will be held totally responsible for consequences arising therefrom. The statement also stressed that the United States should give deep thought to [simsa sukko] the fact that staging nuclear war exercise again on the Korean peninsula against us will impair [hoesonhada] the idea of the DPRK-U.S. joint statement and may bring about an unfavorable influence [chochi annun yonghyang] on the progress in the future DPRK-U.S. talks and on the solution to the nuclear issue.

The statement expressed the firm belief that the 70 million fellow countrymen, who want national reconciliation and unity and aspire to the reunification, will firmly unite under the banner of the 10-point program of great unity of the whole country, will resolutely smash the criminal war maneuvers of the United States and the South Korean ruling bunch, and will continuously and vigorously struggle for the reunification in the 1990s.

Exercise To 'Adversely Affect' Talks

SK1108102993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 11 Aug 93

["Nuclear War Gamble Must Be Promptly Stopped"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 11 (KCNA)—The United States and the South Korean rulers announced that, at "a meeting of the policy examination committee of the annual security council" held recently at the U.S. Pacific Command, they agreed to stage the adventurous "Team Spirit" joint military exercises against the DPRK next year, too, and carry out the provocative war exercise "Ulchi Focus Lens" from August 17 to 31, according to a report.

The military manoeuvres to be staged by the South Korean authorities in league with outside forces, rendering the situation of the Korean peninsula strained again, are an open military threat to the DPRK and a grave challenge to the desire of the whole Korean nation for peace and peaceful reunification.

The South Korean authorities are blocking the fourth pan-national rally in Seoul at the point of the bayonet and answering the fellow countrymen's desire for peaceful reunification with nuclear war exercises. This fully reveals their ugly color as nation-splittists and warmaniacs little different from the preceding military fascist dictators.

The projected military manoeuvres are grave since they will be staged at a time when a series of agreements for a fundamental solution of the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula have been reached through DPRK-USA talks and, accordingly, North-South dialogue is on the order of the day. The South Korean authorities are planning to stage nuclear war exercises against the dialogue partner after proposing a dialogue to the North on the "nuclear problem". This well shows that their proposal for dialogue is nothing but a mean gesture to mislead public opinion.

In fact, they have no intention for North-South dialogue but have consistently sought only the anti-national aim of isolating and stifling the DPRK by having international "sanctions" taken against and pressure brought on the North with the help of outside forces, regardless of the progress of the DPRK-USA talks. But they must stop acting recklessly, clearly knowing that this will lead them to destruction.

The South Korean warmaniacs must give up at once the reckless nuclear war provocation moves which would put the nation on the altar of big powers and approach dialogue with the North from a sincere stand.

The United States promised at the negotiating table that they would not threaten the DPRK with nuclear weapons, but, outside the negotiating room, it is scheming to stage nuclear war exercises against the DPRK. It must ponder over the fact that this may adversely affect the future progress of the DPRK-USA talks and the solution of the nuclear problem.

CPRF Spokesman Denounces Exercise

SK1108025593 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2113 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] A spokesman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] issued the following statement denouncing the United States and South Korean authorities for having agreed to stage the adventurous Team Spirit joint military exercise against us next year in addition to the "Ulchi Focus Lens" war exercise:

All Korean compatriots in the North, the South, and overseas are now vigorously waging the struggle to implement the 10-point program of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the fatherland. They are filled with fervent zeal to achieve reunification in the 1990s by successfully holding the Fourth Pannational Rally.

Ignoring the national flood rushing toward unity and reunification, however, the South Korean authorities are recklessly scheming a nuclear war against fellow countrymen in collusion with outside forces.

On 5 August, the United States and the South Korean rulers held a meeting of so-called policy review subcommittees of the annual ROK-U.S. security consultative meeting and agreed to stage the adventurous Team Spirit joint military exercise against us again next year. On 6 August, they said they would stage the "Ulchi Focus Lens" training exercise from 17 to 31 August.

Today, more and more compatriots at home and abroad welcome and support the 10-Point Program of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the Reunification of the

Fatherland. With the Fourth Pannational Rally providing momentum, sentiments of great national unity and peaceful reunification grow stronger than ever. At this moment, the South Korean authorities are going to conduct nuclear war exercises again in collusion with outside forces. This is a very dangerous game with fire, aggravating the strained situation of the Korean peninsula and posing a grave challenge to the whole nation's desire for peace and reunification.

Worse still, after proposing dialogue with us on the nuclear issue, the South Korean authorities are planning to stage nuclear war exercises that threaten their dialogue partner. This reveals the deceptive nature of their proposal for dialogue.

The CPRF sternly denounces the South Korean authorities' maneuver in collusion with outside forces, which will bring dark clouds of nuclear war to fellow countrymen, and brand it as an unforgivable, antinational, and criminal act as well as an open nuclear war commotion aimed at assaulting our republic.

The South Korean ruling bunch conspired with outside forces and announced their plan to carry out the nuclear war exercise. This once again clearly shows that they are indeed betrayers throwing away the North-South agreement on achieving national reconciliation and unity like an old shoe and that they are an antinational group pursuing confrontation and division among fellow countrymen.

Since the current regime set sail in South Korea under the cloak of a civilian regime, it has committed various provocative war exercises against us which are completely inappropriate for a civilian regime. Ignoring consistent protest and denunciation from the whole nation and the world's peace-loving people, they crazily carried out various known and unknown war exercises including the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise, a large-scale nuclear war exercise to invade the North, the [Cheryong]-93 cooperative demonstration exercise, and the Ulchi-93 war exercise in the skies, ground, and seas of South Korea.

In particular, the South Korean ruling bunch are very dissatisfied and anxious about the progress in talks between the United States and us and on our announcement of the joint statement. They are bustling about begging to carry out some form of international sanctions and pressure on us. They endlessly commit nasty provocative maneuvers to aggravate North-South relations.

All facts clearly show that in barring the Fourth Pannational Rally in Seoul with guns and bayonets and answering the desire of the nation's peaceful reunification with the nuclear war exercise commotion, South Korea's current regime is exactly the same as the preceding military fascist dictatorial regime and that it is a regime of war and division.

The only thing that results from confrontation and war is the road to self-destruction. The South Korean ruling bunch must immediately stop the reckless nuclear war provocative maneuvers which will inflict immeasurable misfortunes and sufferings on the nation.

If the South Korean authorities persistently move toward the road of a nuclear war regardless of our just warning, they will be wholly responsible for the consequences.

The United States must ponder over the fact that staging the nuclear war exercise against us another time on the Korean peninsula will impair the idea of the DPRK-U.S. joint statement and may bring about an unfavorable influence on the progress of future DPRK-U.S. talks and the resolution of the nuclear issue.

We express the firm belief that the 70 million fellow countrymen who want national reconciliation and unity and desire reunification, will firmly unite as one under the banner of the 10-point program of great unity of the whole country to resolutely smash [chitbusigo] the criminal war maneuvers of the United States and the South Korean ruling bunch and continue to vigorously struggle to achieve reunification in the 1990's.

[Dated] 10 August, Pyongyang

Japanese Professor's Praise of U.S. Talks Cited

SK1108051793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0417 GMT 11 Aug 93

["Japanese Professor Affirmatively Assesses DPRK-U.S. Talks"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 11 (KCNA)—Satakuni Takaya, a professor of Buddhist College of Japan, published an article on the DPRK-U.S. talks in TOKYO SHIMBUN.

He said that one can see in the DPRK-U.S. joint statement how sincerely the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is striving to achieve the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula and its peace by carrying into practice the "agreement on reconciliation, non-aggression, cooperation and exchange between the North and the South".

"The DPRK had long since demanded talks with the United States and this shows that North Korea truly wants peace on the Korean peninsula through the replacement of the armistice agreement with a peace agreement and other measures," he noted.

"A review of all materials related to the DPRK-U.S. dialogue tells us that the DPRK-U.S. talks will develop favorably, contrary to the distorted reports of some quarters," he predicted.

Foreign Party Leaders Send Messages to Kim Il-song

SK1108043493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0407 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 11 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received messages of greetings from Alberto Moreno, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Peru (Red Motherland); Victor Sanchez Bilagra, chairman, and Ricardo Esti Garribia, general secretary, of the February Revolutionary Party of Paraguay; Gustavo Mohme Ryona, national secretary general of the Socialist Political Action Party of Peru; Trino Melean, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Venezuela; Eduardo Machado, chairman of the New Alternative of Venezuela; and Leopoldo Grullon, general secretary, and Felipe Baez, international secretary, of the Central Committee of the Dominican Communist Party (Marxism-Leninism), on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Korean people in the fatherland liberation war.

In the messages they extend warmest congratulations to President Kim Il-song and wish him good health and long life.

They express their determination to continually develop relations between their parties and the Workers' Party of Korea.

Meanwhile, messages of greetings came to the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il from James Stewart, general secretary, and Eoin O'murku [name as received], international secretary, of the National Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Ireland; and Alvaro Vasquez, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Colombia.

Kim Chong-il Sends Thanks to Working People

SK1108043693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0409 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 11 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to So Chang-chae factory, the Wau cooperative farm in Taedong County, South Pyongan Province, the Taesong general direct sales store, the medical collective of the People's Hospital No. 1 of the Sakju County, North Pyongan Province and many other units, officials and working people who made a contribution to consolidating Army-people relations.

They value and love People's Army soldiers like their own flesh and blood and do the best for them.

Cuban Ambassador Marks Solidarity Month

SK1108044293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0410 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 11 (KCNA)—Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega arranged a cocktail party in his embassy Tuesday in connection with the closing of the "month of solidarity with the Cuban people".

Invited there were Vice-Premier Chang Chol, chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries Chong Chun-ki and officials concerned.

Speeches were made there.

Chongnyon Group Arrives From Japan 11 Aug

SK1108044593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0411 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 11 (KCNA)—A delegation of economic officials of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) led by Kang Yun-kyong, director of a department of the Chongnyon Central Standing Committee, arrived here Tuesday by air to visit the socialist homeland.

Foreign Delegations Visit Mangyongdae

SK0708105793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1020 GMT 7 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 7 (KCNA)—Foreign delegations gave their impressions of Mangyongdae they visited while staying in Korea on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Korean people's victory in the war.

Home minister of Namibia, Hifikepunye Pohamba, a special envoy of the president, said his reverence for the great leader President Kim Il-song has further deepened through a visit to the old home in Mangyongdae. This humble old home is the sacred place of the Korean revolution, he added.

He stressed that Comrade Kim Il-song is the great leader not only of the Korean people but also of the world's revolutionary people.

Preben Moller Hansen, chairman of the Danish Workers' Party, common cause, noted that the family of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is a patriotic and revolutionary family whose members fought against imperialism through generations.

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song is a great leader who set out on the road of revolution in his early years, defeated the Japanese imperialists and liberated the country, he said.

Liu Anyuan, Political Commissar of the Nanjing military area of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, who was leading a delegation of the former Chinese People's Volunteers, said Mangyongdae is an excellent school for education in the revolutionary traditions. The great leader President Kim Il-song's family is, indeed, a revolutionary family, he added.

Marian Donnelly, president of the Workers' Party of Ireland, said esteemed comrade President Kim Il-song embarked on the road of revolution in his early years and liberated the country and built the socialist paradise as it is today. Boonpun Kaevatana, minister of public health and secretary general of the Social Action Party of Thailand, said the Korean people are enjoying such happiness as today as they are led by His Excellency President Kim Il-song, the great leader.

Jorge Lescano Perez, Politburo member of the Central Commitee and first secretary of the Havana City Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, said the noble ambition of revolutiovary family is associated with the old home in Mangyongdae. The most important thing is that the traditions created in this sacred place of revolution are successfully being inherited and developed by the younger generation in Korea, he added.

Chief of the general staff Ralahy Paol, head of the Madagascan Government military delegation, stressed that the revolutionary cause of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is successfully being carried forward by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

'Talk' Stresses Need To Strengthen Ideology

SK1108105693 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2340 GMT 9 Aug 93

[Unattributed talk: "Arming Oneself With Socialist Ideology Is the Basic Condition for Safeguarding and Adhering to Socialism"]

[Text] One of the important problems in safeguarding, adhering to, and elucidating the socialism of our own style centered on the popular masses is to strengthen the chuche idea indoctrination among the party members and workers so that they can be firmly armed with chuche socialist ideology.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has pointed out: Party organizations should bear in mind that firmly arming the cadres, party members, and workers with chuche socialist ideology is the basic condition for safeguarding and adhering to our country's socialist system, and must further strengthen the ideology indoctrination work.

Firmly arming the popular masses with socialist ideology is an intrinsic demand of a socialist society. Socialism is originally a society guided by the scientific socialist ideology, and socialist ideology forms the life of a socialist society. Without socialist ideology, socialism cannot be constructed or maintained.

The true socialist ideology of our time is the chuche socialist ideology. Chuche socialist ideology is a socialist ideology centered on the popular masses which for the first time in history has clarified that socialism is a society where the popular masses who are the main force of the history are the master of everything, everything serves to the popular masses, and that it is a society ceaselessly developing under the united might of the popular masses.

Arming the popular masses with chuche socialist ideology is the basic condition for safeguarding and adhering to the socialist system. Arming the popular masses with chuche socialist ideology before anything else is assimilating socialism as their faith and morality so that they can be endlessly loyal in carrying out the socialist cause. The faith toward socialism can be possessed when people firmly believe in the inevitability and justness of the socialist cause. The recognition of the inevitability and justness of the socialist cause is importantly related to how socialism is understood.

Chuche socialist ideology provides the popular masses with firm faith toward socialism by clarifying that socialism is the only way to realize the popular masses' demand for being free from exploitation and suppression and to become the master of everything, and by clarifying that the justness of the socialist cause lies in making the popular masses as the master of the state and society so that they fully enjoy an independent and creative life.

Chuche socialist ideology provides a correct understanding among the people that socialism is the life and living of the popular masses which has emerged as an independent main force in history. Therefore, they are bearing in mind that safeguarding socialism from the demands of their lives is a lofty moral responsibility. Thus, the popular masses can truly assimilate socialism as their faith and morality and wholeheartedly be faithful to the socialist cause endlessly only when they are armed with chuche socialist ideology.

Another reason that arming the popular masses with chuche socialist ideology is the basic condition for safeguarding and adhering to the socialist system is that this strengthens the main force of the revolution and enhances its role to successfully build and complete socialism.

The basic way to safeguard and to adhere to the socialist system and to accelerate socialist construction is to strengthenthe main force of socialism and to enhance its role. A socialist society is a society developing through the strength of cohesion and unity of the popular masses who are the masters of the state and society. Therefore, chuche socialist ideology newly elucidated the fact that strengthening the main force of the revolution and enhancing its role by firmly uniting the popular masses around the party and the leader should be basically adhered to.

The key to victory in socialism lies in the wise leadership of the party and the leader. Also, when the leader, the party, and the masses firmly unite according to one ideology, socialism manifests invincible strength. There can be no other (?cause) in safeguarding the socialist system and completing the socialist cause.

Only when the main force is strengthened by preceding the human remolding work and when its role is enhanced, can the social and political institutions of socialist system be firmly consolidated. Also, the work to remake nature and improve social relations can be smoothly promoted in accordance with the demand of fulfilling the socialist cause.

Experience shows that when priority strength is not put into the human remolding work to firmly prepare the popular masses as the main force of the revolution and construction, socialist economic construction cannot be progressed properly and moreover, it will weaken the political basis of socialism. Thus, they will not be able to maintain the socialist system obtained through blood in the end.

The basic condition to safeguard and to adhere to the socialist system is to arm oneself with chuche socialist ideology. This is because it always makes it possible to consistently safeguard the socialist principle in the revolution and construction.

Chuche socialist ideology elucidates that the basic principle that should be consistently adhered to in socialist construction is thoroughly safeguarding and embodying the independent demand and interest of the popular masses.

A socialist society is a society which embodies man's intrinsic demand of wanting to live and develop independently. Therefore, the victorious advance of socialism and its completeness cannot be through about without thoroughly safeguarding and embodying the independent demand and interest of the popular masses.

In the process of constructing socialism, lines and policies must be developed creatively in accordance with the struggle environment and changes in conditions, but it must not deviate from the revolutionary principle related to the fundamental interest of the popular masses in any case whatsoever.

Throwing away the revolutionary principle in the struggle of whether it is socialism or capitalism means surrender and betrayal. The great chuche idea—chuche socialist ideology—is the only correct yardstick that determines right from wrong. This ideology profoundly elucidates the reactionary essence and harmfulness of all kinds of antisocialist ideology and ways to overcome them.

Therefore, we must firmly unite around chuche socialist ideology to thoroughly prevent the infiltration of antisocialist ideology and firmly safeguard revolutionary principle in socialist construction.

As we have seen, arming the popular masses with socialist ideology is a basic condition to safeguard and adhere to socialism. Our people will firmly arm themselves with chuche socialist ideology and brilliantly embody it. By doing so, they magnificently built socialism of our own style centered on the popular masses on this land, and amid the intent antisocialist maneuvers by the imperialists and reactionaries they firmly adhered to and are further elucidating socialism.

All the functionaries and workers must deeply bear in mind the pride and honor of carrying out the revolution with chuche socialist ideology according to the refined leadership of the great leader and the great party, and vigorously struggle for the victorious advance and completion of the socialist cause.

Importance of Ideological Revolution Stressed

SK1108112093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2324 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Unattributed talk: "Ideological Revolution is the Lifeline of Socialist Construction"]

[Text] In his immortal classic, "Historical Lessons of Socialist Construction and the General Line of Our Party," the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il elucidated the general line of the construction of socialism and communism that we should thoroughly implement the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—while strengthening the people's political regime and constantly enhancing its functions and role. While elucidating the general line and its justness, he formalized that the ideological revolution is the lifeline of socialist construction.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il noted: The socialist society's superiority to capitalist society is represented by its ideological superiority, and the might of socialism is none other than the might of its ideology. Therefore, neglecting the ideological revolution means failing to catch the lifeline in socialist construction.

In a capitalist society governed by the almighty gold principle, money is life. However, in a socialist society, whose master is the popular masses, ideology is life. Socialism will achieve victory when the popular masses are armed with the socialist ideology and united in one based on it, but it will ruin when the popular masses are ideologically diseased. This tells that the ideological revolution is the lifeline of socialist construction.

The ideological revolution is regarded as the lifeline of the socialist construction because, above all reasons, it is a basic method to consolidate and develop the socialist society and constantly enhance its superiority by arming people with the socialist ideology and preparing main forces for the construction of socialism and communism.

The socialist cause can be consummated in the course of constantly consolidating and developing an established socialist system and greatly enhancing its superiority. Socialism can be built and advance only by its master popular masses' struggle with an end in view. Therefore, making the popular masses, who are main forces of the socialist construction, fully exalt their revolutionary zeal and creativity and fulfill their responsibility and role as masters of the revolution and construction is a basic method to consolidate and to develop the socialist system, to constantly enhance its superiority, and to successfully promote the construction of socialism and communism. There is no magic way but this method in promoting socialism and communism.

Communist ideology is not be born automatically when a socialist system is established and when the popular masses become the master of means of production. It is necessary to free people from old ideologies, including individualism and egoism, and make them fulfill their responsibility and role in the revolution and construction by vigorously carrying out the ideological revolution.

The ideological revolution is the struggle to annihilate capitalism ultimately even in the ideological area as well as a fierce class struggle between the reactionary, bourgeois ideology and the innocent working-class ideology.

The ideological revolution is a basic method to consolidate and to develop the socialist society and strengthen its might by making people fulfill their responsibility and role as masters of the socialist society after rooting out individualism, egoism, and other capitalist ideologies latent in their brains and arming them with the socialist ideology.

Ideological revolution not only arms people with socialist ideology but also firmly realizes the political and ideological cohesion and unity of the whole society centered on the leader. Thus, it consolidates and develops the socialist system and makes it possible to highly elucidate its superiority.

Ideological revolution is work to remold the people's ideology. Its basic objective is to firmly arm the people with the leader's revolutionary ideology and to foster them to become true communist revolutionaries.

When we vigorously carry out ideological revolution, all members of society will be firmly armed with the leader's revolutionary ideology and true world outlook of the working class, and be firmly united as comrades. This means that only when we carry out ideological revolution can we most firmly consolidate the popular masses' political and ideological unity, and socialism can become a society that has invincible might.

The next reason that ideological revolution becomes the lifeline of socialist construction is that through ideological revolution we can block the imperialists' ideological and cultural infiltration and safeguard socialism. We must vigorously carry out ideological revolution to successfully block the imperialists' ideological and cultural infiltration.

Ideological and cultural infiltration is one of the main schemes in the imperialists' antisocialist maneuvers at this time. Through the method of infiltrating reactionary ideology and culture, the imperialists are paralyzing socialist ideology of the popular masses, and are spreading a corrupt bourgeois life style, thus maneuvering to deteriorate and disintegrate the socialist countries.

Blocking the imperialists' ideological and cultural infiltration is an important problem related to the destiny of socialism. Ideological revolution is the most powerful way to smash [chitbusyoborida] the imperialists' ideological and cultural infiltration. Ideological revolution makes people clearly recognize the justness of the socialist cause and the inevitability of its victory. It also correctly makes them recognize the reactionary essence and corruption of capitalism so that they can successfully block the imperialists' ideological and cultural infiltration.

Also, through ideological revolution, it makes the popular masses firmly adhere to the revolutionary principle. All these facts show that we cannot safeguard or develop socialism without carrying out ideological revolution. Ideological revolution is the lifeline which is the basic problem to determine the destiny of socialist construction.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il made an immortal contribution to perfectly interpreting the basic method of the socialist and communist construction based on the chuche principle by clarifying a unique ideology that ideological revolution becomes the lifeline of socialist construction.

All the party members and workers should be firmly armed with and embody the dear comrade leader's chuche socialist ideology theory so that they can safeguard, adhere to, and ceaselessly develop the socialist cause.

Reporter Notes Village's Use of Solar Energy

SK1008073493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0600 GMT 8 Aug 93

["Travelogue" by an unidentified station reporter who visited the Taesong Cooperative Farm in Taesong District, which has won the red flag of three revolutions: "A Farm Village That Enjoys Benefits of Science and Technology"—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il noted: We have to solve scientific and technological problems to effectively use and save energy as well as to concentrate efforts on research and development of new energy, including solar and wind energy, and pave the way for its application.

We recently visited Anaktong village represented by the Taesong Cooperative Farm. Remembering that the village is a meaningful place for historic and honorable visits by the great leader and the dear comrade leader made us solemn.

Anaktong village is located at the sunny foot of a mountain. The village looked like a picture. When we arrived at the Administrative Committee of the Taesong Cooperative Farm, we met Comrade Yi Tong-yu. He said that many people visit Anaktong village nowadays and that he is very proud of living and working there.

Under the guidance of Comrade Yi Tong-yu, we first visited a plant which has solar-heat concentration equipment. The equipment was as large as a normal-sized desk. It was painted black in order to absorb the greatest amount of sunlight. It was covered by a glass lid and was inclined.

Water heated by the solar-heat concentration equipment is supplied to houses from March through November. When we were about to raise a question on how they manage in the winter, Comrade Yi Tong-yu ushered us to another place where a (?boiler) operated by absorbed solar heat was installed. This supplies houses with hot water from December through February of the following year.

Next, we visited a methane gas production base, where various tanks and pipes and many other facilities were installed outdoors. It looked like a small chemical plant. The base produces methane gas by fermenting various waste organic matter, such as garbage from cities, domestic animals' excrement, and dead leaves. Tractors, trucks, and farming machines such as rice-transplanting machines are operated with methane gas produced by the base. They cook meals and boil feed for domestic animals with this gas and [words indistinct]. Comrade Yi Tong-yu said:

[Yi] "Thanks to the consideration of the dear comrade leader, the methane gas production base was established and now it produces 500 cubic meters of methane gas a day throughout all seasons. Out of the 500 cubic meters of methane gas, 150 cubic meters are used for cooking meals in houses, and 350 cubic meters are used for operating trucks and tractors. Production of methane gas serves a double purpose.

"When trucks go out to load methane gas fuel, they carry methane gas (?fermentation tools) to fields and rice paddies. They have great effect. With this gas, they cook food, operate trucks and tractors and produce good-quality compost.

As you witnessed, comrade reporter, Anaktong village benefits from solar heat, subterranean heat and methane gas heat."

We went to a residential building made of silicate. The three-story houses had, afixed on their roofs, large, mirror-like equipment which turned out to be solar-heat concentration equipment and heat-preservation tubs. Instead of using hot water sent from the village's site of solar-heat concentration equipment, residents were using hot water generated from solar-heat concentration equipment installed on the roofs of their own houses. They were also using water obtained from heating through the underground pressurized-heat pumping equipment.

We visited a household on the first floor. After hearing what granny Kim Yong-sin had to say, we went around the kitchen, store room, and living rooms. We attentively looked around the house, including the double pipe-type gas (?corner), rice storeroom, vegetable storeroom, and balcony which was made like a greenhouse with pair-glasses. We were impressed with the fact that hot water is being preserved with solar heat and that the night soil disposition site was turned into a gas production base. Comrade Yi Tong-chu explained to us that Anaktong village has benefited from science and technology because the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent members of the 17 February shock brigade of scientists and technicians. This also resulted from the unheralded efforts of scientists and technicians.

We met Sim Kong-hyop, director of a bureau in the State Commission of Science and Technology who worked as the leader of the shock brigade of scientists and technicians.

[Sim] "We members of the 17 February shock brigade of scientists and technicians, were able to make a small achievement in scientifically resolving the issue of effectively using solar-heat, subterranean heat, and methane gas. This would not have been possible were it not for the wise leadership and warm affection of dear comrade leader.

"Dear comrade leader has embodied the noble moral character of the great leader who always pays deep attention to upgrading our people's living standards. Dear comrade leader saw to it that a model village be built where solar heat would guarantee heating, a supply of hot water was guaranteed, and where food could be cooked with methane gas.

"This task was assigned to the shock brigade of our scientists and technicians. This demonstrated the great trust of dear comrade leader in our scientists and technicians and his expectations for them. This has become our very strength and wisdom.

"While carrying out this task, we came to be keenly aware of the warm love of dear comrade leader for the people. He treasures our people most and makes all efforts to benefit the people.

"Dear comrade leader personally took the initiative in organizing the shock brigade of scientists and technicians who will play the leading role in developing the nation's science and technology. He saw to it that the scientists and technicians were sent to various domains of the national economy. Through actual experience, we realized how just his steps were."

We left the village with the firm belief that soon all farm villages throughout the country will become like Anaktong village.

KCNA Highlights Performances at May Day Stadium

SK1008000493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2214 GMT 9 Aug 93

[Text] Pyongyang, August 9 (KCNA)—The May Day Stadium located in the Nungna Islet of the River Taedong flowing through Pyongyang is packed to capacity every evening.

With 150,000 seats, it is well known to the world as the venue of the grand opening and closing ceremonies of the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students in July 1989, that fascinated the people.

"We won the victory", the evening performance celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Korean people's victory in the fatherland liberation war, is now going on there.

Composed of the prelude, three acts and the finale, the performance is an epical masterpiece of our times which consummates successes of chuche art that is developing under the wise guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and which fully displays the achievements of mass gymnastic display and taekwon-do.

Fully shown in the evening performance are the immortal revolutionary feats of the great leader President Kim Il-song who defended the sovereignty and dignity of the nation by leading the fatherland liberation war to victory and has built a powerful, prosperous socialist country, pushing aside debris, and the ardent loyal pledge of the Korean people who are defending and glorifying socialism under the wise guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who is successfully carrying forward and accomplishing the revolutionary cause of chuche.

It is very vast in its scale.

It is performed by youth and students, People's Army soldiers, school children, artistes and sportsmen and sportswomen, more than 80,000 all told.

The stadium forms a grand celebration stage with a 2,000-men chorus stand, movable special stages and other stages, large lantern slide screen and beautiful lighting devices.

The large background and floor gymnastic movements are harmonized with each other to bring the ideological and thematical contents of the performance into relief.

In the first scene of the third act, countless female dancers present a scene of raging waves to the accompaniment of "No Motherland Without You", a song of praise sung by all the Korean people. And, cleaving these waves, youth vanguards advance, holding high the flags of the Workers' Party of Korea. This impressively shows the unshakable pledge of the Korean people to defend the WPK with their lives.

President Kim Il-song was greatly satisfied when he saw the evening performance and highly appreciated each scene.

The performance has evoked great repercussions upon the home people and foreigners.

El Hadj Boubacar Diallo, general secretary of the Party of Unity and Progress of Guinea, said that he saw a people closely united around the party and the leader, the indomitable spirit of a heroic people to break through difficulties with optimism, believing in their own strength, not knowing pessimism any time.

Reviews 11 Aug Pyongyang Press

SK1108053193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0425 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, August 11 (KCNA)—Papers here today frontpage a message of greetings sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Idriss Deby, President of the Republic of Chad, on the occasion of the 33rd anniversary of independence of Chad.

Papers devote much space to messages of greetings to the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il from foreign party leaders on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Korean people in the fatherland liberation war.

Papers report that works of President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il have been disseminated and studied in different countries and the brief biography of the revolutionary activities of President Kim Il-song was reported by a Cambodian radio.

NODONG SINMUN prints messages of greetings to the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea from foreign party leaders and party on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory in the war.

Remaining highlighted in papers are reports about the upsurge maintained by the working people and members of the three revolution team across the country in production and construction in the spirit with which they honoured the 40th anniversary of the victory in the war by registering significant achievements.

NODONG SINMUN carries dispatches from the countryside where a rich harvest of grain and increase of meat output are foreseen and MINJU CHOSON reports about the appearance of new colleges and branch schools where working people study while on the job.

Papers carry an open questionnaire sent by the North side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) and the North side headquarters of the National Alliance of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification (Pomchonghangnyon) to the South Korean authorities who are blocking the opening of the Fourth Pannational Rally in Seoul and a statement of the spokesman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland denouncing the South Korean authorities' scheme to stage nuclear war exercises against fellow- countrymen in collusion with outside forces.

An article of NODONG SINMUN hits out at the present "regime" of South Korea for becoming more undisguised in their provocative nuclear manoeuvres against fellow-countrymen.

The daily conveys world public voices praising Korean style socialism centred on the masses and demanding the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

Papers inform the readers that students affiliated with "Hanchongnyon" of South Korea staged a demonstration and sit-down demanding the release of prinsoners of conscience and Japanese Dietmen urged the government to probe the truth behind the Kim Tae- chung kidnapping case.

Dailies say that Fidel Castro called for the unity of Latin America in face of the pressure of the unipole world, the Chinese party and Government grant special favors to the veterans of the Red Army, Yasir 'Arafat denounced Israeli air raids on Lebanon and Nelson Mandela called for a emergency measure for the stability of the country.

Papers introduce Chad.

NODONG SINMUN deals with the disgraceful records of Miyazawa.

South Korea

U.S. Agrees 'In Principle' on Team Spirit

SK1008231393 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 7 Aug 93 p 3

[Text] South Korea and the United States have in principle agreed to conduct their joint military exercise Team Spirit next year to cope with threats posed by the North Korean nuclear weapons development plan, according to the Defense Ministry. The ministry said yesterday that the agreement came at a three-day meeting of policy review subcommittees (PRS) of the annual Korea- U.S. Security Consultative meeting (SCM), which was held at the U.S. Pacific Command in Hawaii.

The 25th ROK-U.S. SCM is scheduled for November here in Seoul under the co-chairmanship of Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae and his American counterpart Les Aspin.

Seoul and Washington suspended the Team Spirit exercise temporarily in 1992 in their failed attempt to induce North Korea to give up its disputed nuclear development scheme.

Revealing the results of the Hawaii PRS meeting, the ministry said that the two sides also confirmed the earlier agreement to shelve the projected U.S. troop withdrawal from the southern half of the Korean peninsula until Pyongyang completely abandons its nuclear program.

However, the two countries could not settle on the issue of defense burden sharing by the Seoul government for fiscal 1994, agreeing to further discuss it in the projected 25th SCM meeting.

A source close to the PRS meeting said that Washington demanded a sharp hike in Seoul's financial contribution to maintenance of the U.S. military force here, up 22 percent from this year.

He said that South Korea insisted on a small markup in sharing of the defense expenditures on the basis of the earlier accord that Seoul would bear up to one-third of the American forces by 1995.

The ministry, meanwhile, said that both countries agreed to cooperate closely in pressing North Korea to resume now-deadlocked inter-Korean dialogues and accept inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of its two suspected nuclear sites in Yongbyon about 40 kilometers north of Seoul in their joint effort to solve the nuclear issue.

In the logistical cooperation subcommittee meeting, they also agreed to formulate a combined operational committee to help facilitate the Agreement on War Hosted Nation Supports concluded between the two allies in 1991 but it differed on the oil supply issue.

Washington requested that Seoul use JP-8 fuel oil, instead of JP-4, not only in aircraft but also in ground equipment, such as cranes as do the U.S. Pacific Command and the American forces in Japan.

But Seoul turned down the request on the ground that JP-8 is aircraft and ground equipment will incur an additional cost of 20 billion won (about 25 million U.S. dollars) a year and that in aircraft 8 billion won more will be incurred a year.

Differences on the oil issue, ministry added, would be ironed in the November SCM meeting.

Paper Reports on ROK, U.S. Security Meeting

SK1108004793 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 7 Aug 93 p 2

[Text] On 5 August, the policy review subcommittee and the logistical cooperation subcommittee meetings of the annual ROK-U.S. Security Consultative Meeting [SCM] reached an agreement on the final draft of the security cooperation measure joint research project, but disagreed on issues such as the ROK's defense burden sharing and the joint use of fuel oil. The two sides, therefore, decided to discuss these issues in the SCM meeting to be held in Seoul in early November.

To push ahead with "the joint study of the direction of security cooperation for the 21st century," which the two sides agreed last year, the policy review subcommittee received reports from the research organizations of the two countries and signed an agreement on it. The result of the study will be reported to the SCM next year.

The policy review subcommittee reconfirmed that the two countries will continue the Team Spirit exercise and withhold the reduction of the U.S. forces in the ROK until the North Korean nuclear issue is resolved.

The policy review subcommittee failed to reach an agreement on the level of the defense burden sharing by the ROK because while the U.S. side requested the ROK side to increase the financial contribution from the current fiscal year's $220 million to $260 million for the next fiscal year. The ROK side insisted on a small markup in sharing of the defense expenditures on the basis of the earlier accord that the ROK would bear up to one-third of the expenditures incurred by the U.S. forces in the ROK by 1995.

Air Force Pilots Learn To Fly MiG's in Romania

SK1108000793 Seoul YONHAP in English 2344 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 11 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Air Force has revealed that three air force pilots began a seven-week training course on flying MiG-29s and MiG-23 fighter planes in Romania on Saturday. The training is being carried out under a plan to promote military exchange and cooperation with Romania, with which South Korea established diplomatic relations in March 1990, Air Force officials said Tuesday. The training would help the South Korean air force assess the combat capability of North Korean mainstay fighter planes, the officials said.

It is the first time that any South Korean Air Force pilot has had a chance to fly the Russian-made fighter planes.

Trade Minister, Thai Counterpart Discuss Tariffs

SK1108045993 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 11 Aug 93 p 8

[Text] Korea and Thailand agreed yesterday to expand bilateral trade and investment as well as to promote cooperation on the energy sector.

The agreement was reached in a meeting between Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy Kim Chol-su and his Thai counterpart [Phimchaichon] Uthai at the former's office. The Thai minister arrived here Monday, leading a business delegation.

During the 10th trade ministerial meeting between Seoul and Bangkok, Kim called upon Thailand to take more positive steps such as easing tariff and non-tariff barriers for the liberalization of its market.

He emphasized that Thailand should reduce its customs duties that average around 30 percent, which is three times higher than Korean's, to expand bilateral trade on a reciprocal basis.

In particular, he called for cuts in tariff rates on tires, electronics, petrochemicals and three other items.

As for the promotion of mutual investment, he asked Thailand to improve conditions for foreign investment.

First of all, he called for an increase in the maximum 49 percent share foreign partners can hold in Thai joint ventures which are mainly engaged in local sales.

Second, he asked Bangkok to actively protect Korean industries in Thailand which face various restrictions such as anti-dumping charges and the removal of generalized system of preferences (GSP) favors in the United States, the 12-member European Community and other advanced countries. At present, there are 73 Korean businesses operating in Thailand with their total investment amounting to $91 million.

Third, he called upon Thailand to expand its social infrastructure such as the supply of electricity and industrial- purpose water in order to attract more Korean investors.

'Human Chain' Separate From Pannational Rally

SK1108083593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0731 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 11 (YONHAP)—The Korea National Council of Churches (KNCC) plans to connect Independence Gate [Tongnimun], in western Seoul, to Imjingak, at the demilitarized zone [DMZ], with a human chain on Independence Day Aug. 15 to symbolize the Korean people's strong will for unification.

Imjingak, a pavilion 48 kilometers northwest of Seoul, is the northernmost part of the country open to civilians. Special permission from the United Nations military authorities is required to proceed beyond this point.

The original hope was to connect independence gate to Panmunjom, the Truce Village that straddles the Military Demarcation Line [MDL] in the demilitarized zone, and link up with a North Korean human chain running from Panmunjom to Kaesong, a village not far away.

But the North Korean authorities suggested to KNCC on Monday that the human chain be part of the "Pannational Conference" [pannational rally], a political propaganda event, thus rejecting KNCC's proposal for a link-up.

The human chain is supported by the National Unification Board and the Culture and Sports Ministry as well as some mass media. Nearly 52,000 persons will stand hand in hand along the road in hopes of peace and unification on the Korean peninsula.

Officials Skeptical of Beijing Aviation Talks

SK1108035293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0135 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 11 (YONHAP)—Seoul and Beijing's third round of talks on an aviation accord to open direct services starts Aug. 16, but officials are skeptical that they can strike an agreement.

Leading the negotiations Aug. 16-18 in Beijing for Korea will be Yu Pyong-u, director-general of the Asian Affairs Bureau at the Foreign Ministry, and his opposite number will be Ke Deming, deputy director of the civil aviation administration of China.

This round of talks will be additonally complicated by Seoul's decision to establish informal relations with Taiwan and restart flights, officials said Wednesday. South Korea demands that China honor the 124 degree east longitude as determined by the International Civil Aviation Organization [ICAO], but Beijing insists on 125 degrees, reasoning it was not an ICAO member when the line was drawn. China insists on single airline for each route, a measure to protect its sole national carrier from having to compete with South Korea's two airlines at the same time.

The two countries will have to discuss Seoul's flight arrangements with Taipei, which China claims to be its renegade province. Seoul and Taipei agreed to open unofficial relations last month after diplomatic severance a year ago when South Korea forged ties with China. China does not allow other countries to fly planes from the same company to both Beijing and Taipei except for the United States and members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). South Korean airlines are likely to have to establish branch companies and erase the national flag emblems on their planes in order to land in Taipei.

Vice Foreign Minister To Visit Beijing, Shanghai

SK1108035593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0137 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 11 (YONHAP)—Vice Foreign Minister Hong Sun-yong visits China Aug. 20-25 for talks on bilateral issues, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday.

Hong visits Beijing at the invitation of his Chinese counterpart, Tang Jiaxuan. He will stop in Shanghai on his way back.

The vice foreign minister will meet with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and other government officials while in Beijing.

Parties Accuse Each Other of Bribery, Violence

SK1108075993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0657 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 11 (YONHAP)—Campaigning in Chunchon and Taegu B-district didn't stop at finger-pointing and name-calling, but went far as the ruling and main opposition parties accusing each other of bribery and physical violence on the eve of National Assembly by-elections in the two areas Wednesday.

An Taek-su, the Democratic Party (DP) candidate in Taegu B-district, filed a charge at the Central Election Management Committee (CEMC) that the wife of rival Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) candidate No Tong-il had distributed some 3.6 million won to 344 eligible voters on Tuesday. He presented a statement by DLP campaigner No Chin-hwan, who said he accompanied No's wife as she went around handing out the money. An said No was caught and taken to DP headquarters, where he made a written admission of bribery, but the DLP called the whole incident "undemocratic" and "political terrorism."

The DLP has reported to the prosecutors' office that Rep. Hong Sa-tok and other DP members kidnapped No and kicked him repeatedly until he wrote the incriminating statement.

"No was thanking community supporters with candidate No's wife when he was taken by force. He made this testimony after being put in fear of his life by violent DP workers," DLP Deputy Spokesman Cho Yong-chik said. Cho added that the money in No's possession at the time was for campaign expenses as it said on the envelope, and in a fit of anger he criticized the DP's imprisonment of No for almost four hours as organized violence.

Back at the DP camp, Party Chairman Yi Ki-taek said he was shocked by the reckless bribery by the ruling party and insisted that either No surrender his bid or call off the election all together.

Voting in the by-elections in Taegu-B, vacant since House Speaker Pak Chun-kyu quit over suspicion about his wealth, and in Chunchon, open since the death of Rep. Son Sung-tok, begins at 7 AM Thursday.

Ethics Committee To Reveal Officials' Assets

SK1108080093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0719 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 11 (YONHAP)—The registration of personal assets by high-ranking public officials, required by the public servants ethics law, closes at 6 PM Wednesday after a one-month period and public disclosure starts Thursday. The Public Servants Ethics Committee is to make public President Kim Yong-sam's personal assets on Thursday. Following consultations with the legislative and judicial branches of government, Speaker of the National Assembly Yi Man-sop, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Kim Tok-chu and Prime Minister Hwang In-song will follow suit next week.

Public disclosures will continue for one month, until Sept. 11, and the officials required to disclose their personal assets are cabinet ministers, vice ministers and representatives, in addition to the president and prime minister.

Other public servants include administration officials of grade one, special grade one and two, senior judges at the high court and above, superintendent public prosecutors and above, general-grade military officers, presidents and vice presidents of national universities and deans, senior superintendents-general of police and above, and executives of government-invested organizations. In all, 6,800 public officials are to disclose their assets.

Details of registered assets of those required to disclose them publicly will be published in the official gazette in early September.

The Ministry of Government Administration said that as of 9:30 AM Wednesday, some 20,000, or 93 percent, of the 21,537 central government officials required to register had done so. Some 6,000, or 85 percent, of the 7,600 central government officials who are to disclose their assets publicly had registered by early Wednesday morning, the ministry said. Some 142 central government officials, many of them diplomats, have asked for a delay for their registrations.

One Government Administration Ministry official said he expected the remaining officials to register after 2 PM Wednesday but all of them before 6 PM.

As the deadline was closing in on those who have been holding out, a tense atmosphere could be detected among representatives to the National Assembly. Many of the lawmakers were understood to have increased the amount of their personal assets since the first round of disclosures, which had been voluntary. The lawmakers cannot, however, complain about the coming disclosure because it is being done under the ethics law that they legislated and made into law.

Kim Chong-pil, chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, has registered assets totaling 2.4 billion won, more or less the same amount that he disclosed in the first round. But Kim included six western paintings, one a Renoir that he said was of uncertain authenticity. If it is a genuine Renoir, its value could amount, of course, to tens of billions of won more.

Speaker Yi put his assets at 1.3 billion won, about 200 million won more than last time.

One of the richest lawmakers of the ruling party is Rep. Kim Chin-chae, who registered his personal assets estimated at 66.2 billion won, up from the 27.7 billion won that he disclosed last time. His wealth is huge even though he did not include his father's assets, estimated at 5 billion won.

Yi Ki-taek, chairman of the main opposition Democratic Party, reduced the amount of his assets by 500 million won to register them at 4.69 billion won.

Independent Rep. Chong Mong-chun, son of Chong Chu-yong, the founder and honorary chairman of the Hyundai Group, remains the richest lawmaker with his assets amounting to 79.9 billion won.

Rep. Kang Sam-chae of the Democratic Liberal Party, who was one of the poorest lawmakers last time, registered assets totaling 237 million won, up 2 million won from last time. Rep. Yu Sung-kyu, a miner before being elected to the National Assembly, put his assets at little more than 200 million won.

Kim Yong-sam's Assets Disclosed

SK1108093893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0826 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 11 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam and his family have assets of 1,645 million won (2.03 million U.S. dollars), a drop of 8 percent from their worth six months ago. The assets, details of which will be published in the official gazette on Thursday under the revised public service ethics law, are 132 million won short of the 1,778 million won that Kim reported at his first cabinet meeting after taking office in February.

Kim is one of more than 6,800 civil servants obliged to not only register but also publicly disclose their assets under the new law, promulgated in June.

A 418 million-won house in Sangdo-Tong, Northern Seoul, farmland valued at 129 million won, and savings of 15 million won make up Kim's personal wealth, while his wife, Son Myong-sun, owns 1.1 million won of land in Koje, South Kyongsang Province, and a 69 million-won ship.

The president's father, Kim Hong-cho, is worth 235.7 million won with a 131 million-won house in Masan, 130 million-won ship, savings of 116.9 million won, and debts of 143 million won.

Kim's eldest son, Kim Un-chol, and his wife own a fishing business valued at 400 million won, including facilities, and have 45 million won of properties, while his second son, Kim Hyon-chol, is worth 330 million won.

Compared with the first disclosure, the value of the Kim couple shrank 50 million won, including a drop of 38.7 million won in the assessed value of his house in Sangdo-Tong. His father's wealth sank 116 million won, while the properties of the eldest son's wife were included this time.

A health club membership and two cars were excluded this round as they are reported to have been sold.

Burma

National Convention Plenary Session Continues

BK1008125793 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0630 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] The plenary session of the National Convention was held this morning at 1000 in the central meeting hall at the president's house compound on Ahlone Road, Yangon [Rangoon]. The session was attended by Lieutenant General Myo Nyunt, chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission [NCCC]; NCCC Vice Chairmen Lt. Gen. Maung Thint and Brigadier General Myo Thant, and commission members; U Aung Toe, chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee [NCCWC]; NCCWC Vice Chairman U Tha Tun and work committee members; Brig. Gen. Tin Aye, chairman of National Convention Convening Management Committee [NCCMC], and NCCMC members; national convention delegates; and local and foreign journalists.

U Tin Oo from the peasant delegates group acted as alternate chairman of the meeting while U Myo Thant, U Tun Yin Law, U James Bond, U Mya Sein, U Thein Lwin, U Ba Han, Lieutenant Colonel Taik Tun, and U Wan Tin served as panel members. U Khin Maung Myint, director general in charge of meetings from the NCCWC office, acted as secretary.

Firstly, the secretary announced the validity of the meeting with 666 of 698 national convention delegates attending the plenary session.

Next, National League for Democracy [NLD] delegates and independent delegate U Hla Maung from Kya-in Seikkyi township constituency-1 [originally elected as representative of the Patriotic Old Comrades league] from the group representing elected representatives, submitted their reports on prescribing the basic principles on which the fundamental principles of the state in the drafting of the state constitution should be based.

The report was presented by NLD elected representatives U Hla Kyi from Bassein East Township constituency-2, U Myint Thein from Chauk Township constituency-1, and U Aung Myint from Letpadan Township constituency-1. The plenary session recessed for lunch at 1130.

It has been learned that the afternoon session of the National Convention Plenary Session is still in progress at the president's house compound on Ahlone Road.

Independents, Two Parties Present Reports

BK1008153793 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1530 GMT 9 Aug 93

["Excerpts" of the combined report of the elected representatives of the Union Pa-O National Organization, Shan State Kokang Democratic Party, and five independents presented in three parts by Independent Representatives U Tun Kyaw, U Khin Maung Cho, and U Aung Thein at the plenary session of the National Convention held at the President's House compound in Rangoon on 9 August—recorded]

[Text] [U Tun Kyaw] Esteemed Mr. Chairman, members of the Panel of Chairmen, and delegates: I am an elected representative from Namhsan Township constituency-2 [originally elected as representative of the Ta-ang Palaung National League for Democracy]. I will present the report together with U Khin Maung Cho, elected representative from Dimawhso Township constituency-1 [originally elected as representative of the Kayah State Nationalities League for Democracy] and U Aung Thein, elected representative from Ywangan Township constituency [originally elected as representative of the Union Nationals Democracy Party].

Mr. Chairman: We will be presenting the report on behalf of the Union Pa-O National Organization, Shan State Kokang Democratic Party, and five independents—Dr. Hmu Tang, elected representative from Thangtlang Township constituency, Chin State; U Khin Maung Cho, elected representative from Dimawhso Township constituency-1, Kayah State; U Tun Kyaw, elected representative from Namhsan Township constituency-2, Shan State; U Htaung Kho Htan, elected representative from Tamu Township constitutiency, Sagaing Division; and U Aung Thein, elected representative from Ywangan Township constituency, Shan State.

First, I would like to say that I am honored to be able to participate in this history-making National Convention, and I would like to pay my respects to the esteemed chairman and delegates.

Mr. Chairman: I welcomed the government's move for the future welfare of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] in holding the National Convention to prescribe the needed basic principles in drafting a firm state constitution. The National Convention objectives are related to the nondisintegration of the union, nondisintegration of national solidarity, and the perpetuation of national sovereignty. The most important among these is the nondisintegration of national solidarity. If there is nondisintegration of national solidarity then there will be perpetuation of national sovereignty. We need to give priority attention to two factors—factors that can cause the disintegration of national solidarity and what can be done to prevent this disintegration.

The factors that can cause the disintegration of national solidarity are: an authoritative system; a racist policy; not giving full legislative, administrative, and judicial powers to the states; the conceptual idea of belonging to the mainland and belonging to the states that have arisen due to the separation of the seven divisions; not doing what is promised in practical terms; and although Lokapala [eternal] principles are mentioned in every constitution, they are not put into practice, resulting in a lack of unity, equality, and freedom.

All national races residing in the Union of Myanmar (?are proud to be citizens of Myanmar). [words indistinct] formed as union states, and it is necessary to grant suitable autonomy to [word indistinct] in some states.

[U Khin Maung Cho] Continuing, I would like to dicuss judicial matters. Mr. Chairman: There must be one and only one equal judicial system for all classes of people regardless of income social status. The judicial system must protect the honest and innocent people while punishing the deceitful and wicked. In dictatorial countries the law is only on paper and is also the tool of those few who hold the power. This group of dictators, to quash the opposition, tries to get its way by either using the pretense of law to instigate the anger of the majority or by using arms. In those countries power is law. The powerless populace is subject to the law while the people holding power are above the law. This is clearly seen on page 128 of the book written by Dr. Maung Maung entitled "The Constitution of the Union of Myanmar." In accordance with equality in the eyes of the law, the Union of Myanmar must be a law-abiding country, and there should be no one above the law. Everyone must be equal. There should be courts from the village level to the supreme court. The supreme court should be the pinnacle in the country's column of justice. There should be two types of courts—the ordinary court and the appeals court. We should use the jury system in court. There is a great need to choose honest and experienced persons in appointing judges. Only then we will be able to overcome the saying that the most money wins the case.

Mr. Chairman: I would like to present matters relating to the country's economic policies. There is a saying that politics begins in the kitchen. It is not possible to differentiate between political democracy and economic democracy. People used to say that political democracy is not complete without economic democracy, while economic democracy without political democracy is impossible. The economic systems of the AFPFL [Antifascists People's Freedom League] and the BSPP [Burma Socialist Program Party] eras were considered as eras in which there were no economic democracies for the states. For our future nation, the economic policy of the union government and the states should be the one that is based on a market-oriented economy. Furthermore, regarding granting economic democracy to the states, just as the union government is engaged in producing and selling the natural resources of the states in cooperation with foreign countries, permission should also be granted to state governments to cooperate with foreign countries to produce and sell the states' natural resources. This act will clearly demonstrate the possible power-sharing by the central government with the autonomous state governments. Moreover, this could provide fairness in the relationship between the union government and the state governments, and misunderstandings will slowly wither away.

[U Aung Thein] Mr. Chairman: Regarding the abovementioned facts, I would like to suggest that the following basic principles be enshrined in drafting the state constitution:

1. The Union of Myanmar [Burma], composed of states, equal in status and made up of various national races, is a sovereign democratic state using the union system.

2. The political foundation of the nation should be built on the people's delegates elected by the people. The country should be a republic with states of equal status, without the intermingling of politics and religion or without a state religion or nonprescription of a state religion or nonsupport of a single religion, governed by a genuine multiparty democracy system as a sovereign social nation. We must use what is called in English a republic, secular, democratic, sovereign, and social state [proceeding seven words rendered in English] policy.

3. To have a bicameral legislature including the state assembly.

4. The nation's sovereign power must lie with the people, which include all the national races. Legislation must be passed to prevent a forceful takeover of state power.

5. The policy should be majority rule while defending the minority's rights, and the nation should be based on lawkapala [eternal] principles such as social justice, economic justice, political justice, freedom of thought, freedom of expression, freedom of religion, freedom of (?work), freedom of organization, equality in class, equality in opportunity, and equality in justice. There should be no privileged class.

6. The literature and culture associations of national races should be legally formed up to the township and state levels. Programs to promote and safeguard the literature, culture, and traditions of national races should be drawn up, and the activities of concerned national races should not be prevented. The state should encourage the activities of concerned national races and have policies to provide funds and materials and should pass legislation to teach language subjects of national races at the culture university.

7. The economic policy is market-oriented, and encouragement should be given to the private, cooperative, state sectors, and joint ventures. Legislation should be passed for freedom of trading.

8. (?As the state is considered the owner of natural resources), a policy should be drawn up and acted upon accordingly by the union government, regional authorities, cooperatives, and joint ventures.

9. The country's economic plans should be drawn with a view to increasing the wealth of the country, to increase the cultural status of the people, to increase the stability of the independence of the union and to increase the defense capability. The state should have a

policy of providing technical, material, and financial assistance to economic organizations and should act according to that policy.

10. The government, so that undeveloped regions in the union are able to compete with other developed regions, should made plans for the political, economic, and social developments and the much-needed transportation and other communication works with priority. Moreover, the government should also support the activities of the respective responsible personnel.

11. The state should have freedom of publication, freedom of thought, freedom of expression, and freedom of speech.

12. The state should have freedom to practice, believe, preach, and evangelize religion, and legislation should be passed to prohibit one-sided support for any single religion.

13. In the judiciary system, there should be a supreme court and high courts with the jury system of judgment, and this should practically prove the equality in justice.

14. Every citizen should have the right to work, recreation, and rest. The state should have a policy to give support for the aged, sick, and disabled and should act accordingly.

15. The state should promulgate a policy of compulsory free primary school education and should give special preference to children's education. The state should guard and support high school and tertiary studies, vocational training, the sciences and arts, research, and cultural organizations.

16. The government should pass legislation granting appropriate rights to attend vocational training in accordance with the needs of the hill tribes and the states.

17. To preserve and uphold the literature and culture of the national races, a provision should be included in the constitution to teach them at the primary, middle, and high-school levels.

18. A health and physical education policy should be drawn up to increase the health and physical and mental strength of citizens.

19. The state, regarding the fulfillment of food, shelter, and clothing needs of the people and the increase in standard of living and health as its main duty, should provide basic commodities such as rice, oil, salt, meat, fish, and eggs, and make sure they are affordable. If needed, the state should subsidize them.

20. The state should pass a bill to protect the workers, children, and youths rights.

21. Any citizen of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] should have the right to work freely in cottage industries, livestock breeding, and other private utilities and have the right to inheritance.

22. The state should provide enough for survival of disabled veterans or provide vocational training for their livelihood. The state should especially look after the children of veterans and orphans of war.

23. The state should form mass and class organizations of peasants, workers, students, youths, women, technocrats and intelligentsia and give them encouragement. They should be able to benefit from their fruits of labor.

24. The state, to defend and safeguard the country, should form a union army, navy, and air force and a strong defense service. Moreover, there should also be police, security personnel, and people's militias in the various states.

25. A law on compulsory military training should be promulgated.

26. No citizen, apart from armed organization personnel, should be able to possess arms without a license.

27. The state should abide by the United Nations charter and should practice an independent and active foreign policy.

28. Public service personnel should serve any government that is in power. A policy should be made for public service personnel to quit their posts before joining politics.

29. The state's environment should always be protected, and laws should be promulgated to systematically utilize the natural resources.

30. To form a commission to safeguard democracy and the constitution. Legislation should be provided to deal with offenders.

Esteemed Mr. Chairman: The presentations are made without any malice, and regarding the National Convention Convening Commission chairman's speeches of 9 January 1993 and 7 June 1993, the National Convention Convening Work Committee chairman's speech of 7 June 1993, and the national convention's six objectives, I conclude my presentation. [applause]

NUP Presents Report

BK1008171693 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1530 GMT 9 Aug 93

["Excerpts" of the report of the elected representatives of the National Unity Party presented by U Thein Tun, representative of Ingapu constituency-2, at the plenary session of the National Convention held at the President's House compound in Rangoon on 9 August—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed Mr. Chairman, members of the Panel of Chairmen, and delegates: I am an elected representative of the National Unity Party [NUP] from Ingapu constituency-2. I will present the report of the elected representatives of the NUP on prescribing basic principles that should be enshrined in the state constitution.

Mr. Chairman: We, the representatives of the NUP, suggest the following basic principles of the state that should be included in the state constitution:

1. To give priority to constant maintenance of national independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

2. To prevent disintegration of the union, to further consolidate national unity, to ensure racial equality, to

have the right to self-determination, and to prescribe safeguards and measures to ensure continued survival of weak national groups.

3. To practice an honorable multiparty system and to cooperate on all fronts to develop a genuine democracy.

4. To prescribe and practice a national economic policy that would improve the economic and social conditions of the nation and the people.

5. To construct a genuine democratic system that guarantees the people's freedoms and that is based on Lokapala [eternal] principles of justice, liberty, and equality and basic human rights.

6. To effectively protect the interests of peasants and workers who constitute the majority in the country.

7. To draw up and implement programs to develop the youths, including students, and women with a view to ensuring future prosperity for the nation.

8. To ensure freedom of worship and to prevent mixing of religion and politics and to avoid making political mileage out of religion and religious organizations.

9. To constantly practice active and independent foreign policy, to live in peaceful coexistence with other nations, and to promote friendship among nations.

Our NUP representatives have thus extensively and fully explained the fundamental principles of the state in the nine points. These nine points also contain basic principles for the chapter headings of the constitution on which we had coordinated.

In accordance with the wishes of the National Convention Convening Work Committee, we will excerpt and present the basic principles for the remaining 14 chapter headings.

Mr. Chairman: Under the basic principles for the structure of the state, the form of state should be a union wherein all national races reside in unity forever. That union should be composed of 14 states equal in status and that have the right to self-determination. The union should be formed firmly with these members.

The sharing and distribution of power between the Union and member states should be based on mutual trust, equality, and the right to self-determination, the right to be considered their own race, and the right to development.

As for the basic principles for the head of state, the head of state should be president as the structure of the state is to be a union. The president should not be nominal but should rather be a head of state with power. In accordance with international practices, the president should be born of parents who are both of national races and were born in the country, and he himself should be born inside the country and should have the qualifications to be elected as representative of the parliament.

Under the basic principles for the legislature, the formation of a parliament should be compatible with the structure of the state. It should be bicameral with an upper house [ahtet hluttaw] and people's assembly [pyithu hluttaw]. According to self-determination rights, there should be assemblies [hluttaws] in every member state of the union. Responsibilities and functions of each assembly should be clearly defined in the constitution.

Under the basic principles for administration, the union government should be formed according to the three branches of authority. The sharing and distribution of power between union government and the member states of the union, and between state and regional administrations should be based on political compatibility, national compatibility, and legislative compatibility. The granting of worthy authority and responsibilities to the member states of the union should be firmly prescribed in the constitution. A policy on forming the democratic organizations should also be included in the constitution.

Under the basic principles for judiciary, facts concerning the legal protection of a genuine democratic social system should be included in the constitution. According to the law, the judiciary should be independent and transparent with the exception of legal prohibition. There should be a right to appeal in accordance with the law. It should be prescribed in the constitution that a verdict that denigrates one's dignity cannot be handed down and it should be included that no penal code is retroactive. The formation of Supreme Court, High Court [preceding four words in English], and township courts should also be prescribed in the constitution.

As for the basic principles for the defense services, the importance of the role of the defense services must be recognized due to the country's historical background. The defense services should continue to be linked with national politics and there should be only one modernized and courageous defense service in the country, to include an army, navy, and air force. Concerning the participation of the defense services in the leading role in national politics, the defense services should be involved as appropriate in the country's legislative and administrative sections from a deserving position.

As for the basic principles for original rights and responsibilities of the citizen: Freedom of worship; freedom of expression; rights to gather peacefully; rights to form unions, organizations, and societies; rights to make a living in accordance with the law; rights to work; and rights to own, sell, and transfer removable and irremovable properties should be included in the constitution. Sexual equality in legal matters; equal rights, opportunity, and standards for women; rights to be treated fairly and proportionately depending on one's physical and mental capacity and diligence; and rights to inherit in accordance to the law should also be included. All citizens should have democratic rights—rights to vote, rights to be elected as representative, and rights to revoke the status of elected representatives in accordance with the law. All citizens should have rights for education; rights to search for knowledge; and rights to develop their language, literature, culture, religion, and tradition. All citizens should have the right to medical care, and women and children should have freedom and rights of enjoyment.

As for the basic principles for elections, elections should reflect the essence of democracy in which representatives are those who are elected by the people and who will work for the interests of the people. The people's representatives should be elected by peacefully holding free and fair elections that reflect the genuine desire of the people. The citizens should have rights to participate extensively in the elections. Various levels of authorities should show that they are representing the people.

Under the basic principles for political parties, political parties should be like a bridge linking the people and the government. The political parties should be the one that can lay down political and socioeconomic policies, and programs that are suitable for the interests of the people. While there are political parties that cover the whole nation, there should be political parties that represent various regions. A political party should have the necessary direction and philosophy, a basic political course, and a code of conduct.

Under the basic principles for provisions for the state of emergency, there should be plans to ensure effective protection for people by various levels of authority in situations that endanger the security, lives, shelters, and properties of the people. The commander in chief of the Defense Services should intervene and carry out his duties in accordance with the basic principles of the constitution if the country is facing a nationwide state of emergency that will affect the independence and sovereignty of the nation. When power is grabbed by causing disturbances or by using force, attempts are made to grab power and to disintegrate the union.

As for the basic principles for amendment of the constitution, majority consent should be sought and coordinated to amend the preambles and policy-like provisions through a referendum. The People's Assembly should be given a right to amend nonpolicy-like provisions based on the changing situation and developments. The state assemblies [pyinae hluttaw myar] and regional democratic organizations should be given rights to propose amendments to the constitution.

As for the basic principles for state flag, emblem, anthem, and capital, they should represent the national symbol of the country.

As for the basic principles for the transitional period, facts concerning the continuation of state administration and judiciary, and activities for peace and stability without interruption during the transitional period should be included. Facts that show that the works being carried out by the government in charge before the ratification of the constitution are legal should also be included. Provisions that say the new government that emerges from the constitution after the transfer of power has to inherit and continue the works being carried by the government in charge before the ratification of the constitution should also be included.

As for the basic principles for general provisions, facts that allow separate grouping of the details, which are not directly related, in the early chapters of the constitution should also be included. Facts that allow the separate explanation of details should be included in the constitution. Indemnity clause [preceding two words in English] should also be included to acknowledge that the works being carried out by the government in charge are in accordance with the constitution.

These basic principles are presented after taking into considerations the internal and external experiences and lessons, and they are tailored to suit our country and our situation. These basic principles also represent the hopes and desires of the national races in our country. National identity [preceding two words in English] can be seen in these principles, because they are objectively based on our country and people's absolute condition.

I have presented only the most significant facts from the basic principles belonging to the NUP representatives. I would conclude my presentation by saying that detailed explanation will be given when we discuss the individual chapter headings.

Delegates Continue Presenting Reports

BK1108043193 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Excerpts] The plenary session of the National Convention was held this morning at 1000 in the central meeting hall at the President's House compound on Ahlone Road, Yangon [Rangoon]. [passage omitted]

The plenary session of the National Convention resumed at 1230. The report of the elected representatives of the National League for Democracy [NLD] and U Hla Maung, representative from Kya-in Seikkyi constituency-1 [originally elected as candidate of Patriotic Old Comrades League], were read by U Tun Myaing, elected representative from Wetlet constituency-1, and Daw Win Myint, elected representative from Mayangon constituency-2.

Next, the 15-page report of U Tun Hlaing, independent from Bahan constituency-1 [originally elected as candidated of Democracy Party], was read by U Tun Hlaing himself.

Next, the 68-page report prepared by the group representing national races was presented in three parts. The meeting was briefly adjourned after the first part of the report was read by Daw Hnin Mya of Thaton Township. When the meeting resumed at 1350, the remaining parts of the report were read by U Myint Aung of Indaw and U Tennessee Pho of Kawkareik.

The plenary meeting ended at 1615. It is learned that the plenary session of the National Convention will resume at 1000 on 11 August.

Meeting Continues 11 Aug

BK1108074193 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0630 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] The plenary session of the National Convention was held this morning at 1000 in the Central Meeting Hall at the President's House compound on Ahlone Road, Yangon [Rangoon]. The session was attended by Lieutenant General Myo Nyunt, chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission [NCCC]; NCCC Vice Chairmen Lt. Gen. Maung Thint and Brigadier General Myo Thant, and commission members; U Aung Toe, chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee [NCCWC]; NCCWC Vice Chairman U Tha Tun and work committee members; Brig. Gen. Tin Aye, chairman of the National Convention Convening Management Committee [NCCMC], and NCCMC members; national convention delegates; and local and foreign journalists.

Lieutenant Colonel Taik Tun from the public service personnel delegate group acted as alternate chairman of the meeting and U Myo Thant, U Tun Yin Law, U James Bond, U Mya Sein, U Thein Lwin, U Tin Oo, U Ba Han, and U Wan Tin served as panel members. U Khin Maung Myint, director general in charge of meetings from the NCCWC office, acted as secretary of the meeting.

First, the secretary of the meeting announced the validity of the meeting as 664 of the 698 National Convention delegates attended the plenary session.

Next, delegate groups submitted their reports on prescribing the basic principles on which the fundamental principles of the state in drafting the state constitution should be based.

The report of the peasant's delegate group was presented by U Shay Re of Kayah State and U Tin Nyunt from Yangon Division and the report of the worker's delegate group was presented by U Bo Thein from eastern Shan State and U Than Myint from Yangon Division. The plenary session recessed for lunch at 1130.

The afternoon session of the National Convention plenary session is still in progress at the President's House compound on Ahlone Road.

Opposition Hails Shan Delegate's Report

BK1008103093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0958 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] Bangkok, Aug 10 (AFP) - Burma's jungle-based dissident government on Tuesday hailed recent opposition in Rangoon to the military's demand for a leading role in politics. The National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma (NCGUB) urged the international community to support Monday's rejection of the military by a politician from the Shan ethnic minority at the on-going constitutional convention in Rangoon.

"We... warmly welcome and completely support the voice of the Shan Nationalities Leagues for Democracy (SNLD) chairman Khun Tun Oo ... (who) openly voiced opposition to the military's demand," the NCGUB said in a statement released here.

Khun Tun Do rejected the military's demand for a leading role in politics and its proposal for a presidential system of government, instead advocating a representative democracy with sovereign power invested in an elected legislature. He also aruged against a military proposal to abandon the ethnic minority names of states and suggested national defence should not be the sole responsibility of the armed forces.

The NCGUB said it was "very much concerned" about Khun Tun Go's safety and that of others who might oppose the junta. The shadow government was set up by pro-democracy politicians in territory controlled by ethnic minority guerrillas in late 1990 after it became clear the junta was not going to hand over power to the opposition, which won a landslide victory in elections that May.

Referring to the arrest earlier this month of two opposition politicians who allegdly sent threatening letters to other delegates at the convention, the NGCUB said their detention showed opposition members were not safe to voice their minds. The arrests "clearly indicate that the elected people's representatives and pro-democracy delegates— still have no guarantee of safety for their conduct or expression."

"We ... would like to request the international community and the world to support support such courages acts of democratic delegates who are trying to implement the will of the people," the NCGUB said.

The NCGUB and other exiled opposition groups have condemned the national convention as a sham that the junta would manipulate to guaranteee an indefinite hold on power.

Thai Army Commander, Delegation Depart

BK1008162093 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] A visiting Thai goodwill delegation led by General Wimon Wongwanit, commander in chief of the Royal Thai Army, left Yangon [Rangoon] by special aircraft at 1530 this evening.

The delegation was seen off at Yangon airport by Lieutenant General Maung Aye, deputy commander in chief of the defense services and Army commander in chief; Lt. Gen. Tin U, Army chief of staff and commander of No. 1 Bureau of Special Operations; Brigadier General Than Tun, vice adjutant general; Colonel Thura Myint Maung, Yangon command deputy commander; and senior military officers.

The visiting Royal Thai Army commander in chief and Lt. Gen. Maung Aye, deputy commander in chief of the defense services, received a salute and viewed the Army, Navy, and Air Force honor guard. A 17-gun salute was accorded as the Thai Army commander in chief was heading toward the special aircraft. The visiting general and entourage later left aboard the special aircraft.

Cambodia

American UN Official 'Fine' After Carjacking

BK1008111493 Hong Kong AFP in English 1110 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Aug 10 (AFP)—Three men in military uniforms abducted a UN provincial director at gunpoint, forced him into his car and drove him nearly halfway to the capital before wrecking the car and fleeing, a UN spokesman said Tuesday. The American director of central Kompong Chhnang province, Tom Ganiatsos, was not seriously injured in the incident—the 140th robbery of a UN vehicle so far.

"He's fine, just a big scare," UN spokesman Eric Falt said.

Ganiatsos was leaving his house in Kompong Chhnang about 9:30 p.m. Monday when the three armed men in uniform forced him to give up the keys to his car, tied his arms behind his back, blindfolded him and forced him into the vehicle, Falt said. They drove south about 40 kilometers (25 miles), about halfway to Phnom Penh, before running off the road and flipping the car at least once, badly damaging the vehicle.

"They didn't know how to control the vehicle very well and had an accident," Falt said.

The culprits fled on foot and the provincial director called for help.

Falt called the incident "very disturbing" and said it was the most serious case yet of armed robbery of UN vehicles. UN peacekeepers have issued steering wheel bar locks for all vehicles in an attempt to halt the massive numbers of recent thefts.

"Whatever we seem to do to prevent it, other incidents seem to go further and further," Falt said.

UN police have seized back "a handful" of stolen UN vehicles through roadblocks on the streets on Phnom Penh and their drivers handed over to local authorities. [sentence as received]

UN officials have said that the thefts are being masterminded by Cambodian military officials who feel that the United Nations should hand over the cars to the new government.

Sirivut Ends Visit to Belgium, Leaves for Paris

BK1008142793 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Government "statement;" dated 9 August—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. As proof of the long-standing relations between the royal families of Belgium and Cambodia, His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia's head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC], has assigned his younger brother, that is Prince Norodom Sirivut, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation; and His Excellency [H.E.] Khek Sisoda, representative of the SNC chairman in France, to pay homage to and attend the burial ceremony of King Baudouin I in Brussels.

2. During this visit to Brussels, the Cambodian delegation comprising Prince Norodom Sirivut, H.E. Khek Sisoda, and Mr. In Maoy, chief of the office of the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, met and and discussed, on the morning of 9 August, with H.E. Derycke, state secretary for development aid, the future cooperation between the two countries.

Also attending the discussion on the Belgian side were Mrs. (Celeau), chief of the cabinet's office; Mr. (Mousiel), official in charge of the office of the Cambodian affairs.

3. Belgium pledged to actively join in rebuilding Cambodia, particularly in training the Cambodian officials. A Belgian delegation led by H.E. Derycke will pay a visit to Phnom Penh from 5 to 6 September 1993.

4. It is noteworthy that Prince Norodom Sirivut's visit to Belgium is the first official visit after his recent appointment as minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation of the Provisional National Government of Cambodia.

5. The Cambodian delegation left Brussels on 9 August for Paris, where it will meet with various French officials.

[Dated] Brussels, 9 August 1993

Ranariddh, Hun Sen To Visit Thailand 'Soon'

BK1008131093 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 10 Aug 93

["Communique"; date not given]

[Text] At the invitation of His Excellency [H.E.] Chuan Likphai, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, His Royal Highness Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh and H.E. Hun Sen, cochairmen of the Provisional Government of Cambodia, will soon pay an official friendship visit to the Kingdom of Thailand.

Losses From Khmer Rouge 2-8 Aug Attacks Summed Up

BK0908133893 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 9 Aug 93

[Text] A report from the statistics sector of the Third Bureau of the Cambodian National Armed forces [CNAF] said that in a week from 2 to 8 August, the Khmer Rouge launched attacks on 45 occasions on various positions of the CNAF and the innocent people in a number of provinces. This includes 11 assaults with infantry forces, five artillery shellings, three mine explosions, two kidnapping forays into villages, six robberies against the people, five raids to disarm militiamen, and 13 troop deployments and ammunition shipments.

The report stressed that in these 45 attacks, the serious ones, including a train robbery, took place in Siem Reap, Preah Vihear, and Kampot Provinces.

The source summed up casualties and losses caused by Khmer Rouge attacks in the week as follows: four CNAF were killed, 11 others were wounded, 26 inhabitants were killed, 80 others were wounded, and over 30 others were kidnapped by the Khmer Rouge. The Khmer Rouge also plundered 45 motocycles, a tractor, and 1.1 million riel belonging to the people. Moreover, three cars, two bridges, and a quantity of materials were destroyed.

The source added that those brutal and barbarous attacks were carried out by the Khmer Rouge's 980th and 912th Divisions in Siem Reap Province, 616th and 612th Division and Front Unit 1001 in Preah Vihear Province, and 415th and 320th Divisions in Battambang Province. These are trouble spots due to the Khmer Rouge's barbarous warmongering activities.

More reports will be presented later by the abovementioned source.

Khmer Rouge Activities in Siem Reap Reported

BK1108043993 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] No noticeable sign of worry has been shown by people and the local state authority in Siem Reap Province, despite the threat of the Khmer Rouge saying they will attack and seize Siem Reap provincial town and the Angkor Wat temple.

The Cambodian National Armed Forces in Siem Reap Province, however, are being very vigilant. An official of the provincial armed forces says that Khmer Rouge forces are operating constantly around the provincial town, in the Angkor temple area, and in various districts of the province. However, they have been unable to seize any positions.

A correspondent in Siem Reap District reported through radio communications that between 150 and 170 Khmer Rouge military elements from Division 780 have gathered and hidden themselves above Samraong Village and Khna Pou Commune. These troops have crossed a bridge named (Spean Chheh) and moved toward the west leaving leaflets at the bridge telling people to quickly leave their districts, province, and the area around Angkor Wat failing which they would be condemned for life.

About 80 Khmer Rouge troops split into two prongs on 6 August at 0500 and attacked Angkrang Village at Trapeang Thom, taking away six motorcycles and killing two persons; another person was wounded. A large quantity of people's property was also taken away.

In Puok District on 5 August, over 200 Khmer Rouge troops gathered in sector 96/54/05 while another 50 rallied further below with 40 boats. They are setting up positions and radio communications in sector 77/52/01. The Khmer Rouge troops plan to cut the bridge on National Route 6 and seize district positions.

In Angkor Chum District on 5 August, between 300 and 400 Khmer Rouge troops moved down with the intention of cutting off National Route 6 while some other elements would attack the district town along Route 231.

The people are curious that the Khmer Rouge have made many proposals. This has made it looks as though they want to return to society and the nation. However, they still create fear and hardship for villagers.

VGNUFC Alleges SRV Continues 'Aggression'

BK0908042393 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in English 0100 GMT 9 Aug 93

[Station editorial: "Who Are Fighting Whom and Who Are the Aggressors, the Victims, the Defenders, the Plaintiffs, and the Accused?"]

[Text] It is common knowledge that the root cause of the Cambodian war is the Vietnamese aggression. Vietnam sent hundreds of thousands of troops to invade and occupy Cambodia on 25 December 1978. And on 10 January 1979, the Vietnamese aggressors installed a Vietnamese puppet state power in Phnom Penh with the aim of shielding their invasion in Cambodia.

The Vietnamese aggressors and their state power have continued to join forces to skin the Cambodian people, devour their flesh, suck their blood, plunder their property, persecute them, round them up, and massacre them for more than 14 years. The state power has pursued with all its strength the policy of Vietnamizing Cambodia in all sectors and domains. Therefore, in Cambodia the Vietnamese aggressors have implemented the strategic policy of swallowing Cambodia by themselves and also via the puppet state power that they installed in 1979.

It is apparent that, although a government has been formed following the elections, the whole state power of the Vietnamese aggressors continues to remain in place. It is occupying and controlling Cambodia in all sectors and domains, including the military, police, and civilian forces, from top to bottom and from Phnom Penh to provinces, districts, communes, and villages. As for the provisional government, although it exists, it is only an empty shell. It has the appearance of a government, but actually it is a state power under the control of the Vietnamese aggressors. Among the 150,000 civil servants and the 150,000 members of the military and police forces, there are only about 100 FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] men. Therefore, the present government is actually the state power that was set up by the Vietnamese aggressors in 1979. At present, the state power is intensifying its plundering, arresting and massacring of the Cambodian people. It continues to ceaselessly attack the people and resistance forces; in particular, it continues hunting and killing FUNCINPEC supporters.

Since the elections so far, the Vietnamese aggressors' state power, especially its cruel puppet military and police forces, have assassinated many thousands of FUNCINPEC supporters and members, causing hundreds of thousands of the people and FUNCINPEC members to flee from the arrests and massacres to live with the people in the Democratic Kampuchea-controlled regions.

Along with furthering their aggression under the aegis of their puppets, the Vietnamese have also sent nearly 3 million aggressor forces to Cambodia to suck the blood and munch the bones of the Cambodian nation and people. And new Vietnamese forces are being secretly and openly shipped to the country.

The Cambodian nation and people are furious with those actions. FUNCINPEC members have been killed, become orphans, been separated, and have fled their home villages because of the Vietnamese aggressors' state power and the presence of nearly three million Vietnamese aggressor forces. They are the main forces that have carried out all kinds of attacks on the Cambodian nation and people in both Phnom Penh and rural areas across the country. They are the aggressors, attackers, and killers of the Cambodian people and members of various political parties. It is these forces that have been attacking the resistance forces since 25 December 1978. The Cambodian nation and people as well as the Cambodian resistance forces comprise the party that has only excised self-defense in order to prevent the Cambodian nation and people from being eliminated in the same way as Kampuchea Kroam. Therefore, the aggressors, the victims, the attackers, the plaintiffs, and the defendants can be seen as clearly as in broad daylight.

Says Over 800 Vietnamese Arrived in Aug

BK0908061193 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 8 Aug 93

[Text] According to a report from Phnom Penh, a big Vietnamese motor boat pulled more than 100 small boats from Vietnam along the Basak river to Phnom Penh in early August. The boats then sailed northward along the Basak River past the Royal Palace and the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] house in the city.

The report said 300 Vietnamese of the more than 800 on board alighted in Phnom Penh's Kilometers 6 suburb while the over 500 passengers remaining continued their trip to the Tonle Sap River.

The report added that the more than 800 Vietnamese are members of the Communist Party of Vietnam and cadres and that they have been systematically organized by the Hanoi Vietnamese since they were in Vietnam. They have come to Cambodia to control all the Vietnamese aggressor forces in the country and to strengthen the puppet state power that the Vietnamese aggressors have had installed since 1979. This is why, although the provisional government has been formed for more than a month, the Vietnamese state power is still in control of every sector from top to bottom. The provisional government is only a figurehead because it is in fact the same state power that the Vietnamese invaders have shored up since 1979.

Everyone has clearly seen that the Vietnamese aggressors' puppet state power is a shield for the continued presence of the three million old and new Vietnamese aggressors. It allows the ongoing influx of huge number of Vietnamese into Cambodia. The Vietnamese aggressors' state power and the Vietnamese aggressor forces, both old and new, are jointly launching offensive attacks on the people and the national resistance forces. They are persecuting the people and plundering their property, and constantly arresting and massacring members and supporters of the winning FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party in Phnom Penh and the countryside.

The Cambodian people, who are extremely indignant at the cruel Vietnamese aggressors and the puppet state power, denounce them as archcriminals and murderers, who are doing away with the Cambodian nation and people. They have much to answer for to the Cambodian nation and people and to Cambodia's history.

Now the Vietnamese aggressors have sent their people from Vietnam to Cambodia in order to intensify their control of Cambodia and suck the blood of the Cambodian nation and people with the aim of transforming the country into another Kampuchea Kraom. This being the case, the Cambodian people can never remain idle, allowing the Vietnamese aggressors and their state power, especially their cruel military and police forces, to further commit massacres at will. Come what may, the Cambodian nation and people will more closely join hands to protect their lives and the survival of the nation.

Residents Issue 'Open Letter' on Vietnamese Influx

BK0708052393 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 18 Jul 93

["Open letter from the people living in the Tonle Sap area calling on compatriots inside and outside the country not to forget the problem of Vietnamese aggression, expansion, annexation, and extermination against the Cambodian race"—date not given]

[Text] The call from the people living along the Tonle Sap area reminding Cambodians not to forget the Vietnamese issue.

I. Since the beginning of July 1993, the Vietnamese aggressors continued to send Vietnamese nationals to settle along the Tonle Sap area.

A. On 3 July, 101 Vietnamese boats arrived at Chhnok Tru.
B. On 5 July, another convoy of 70 to 80 boats arrived in Baribo District of Kompong Chhnang Province.
C. Between 6 and 12 July, many Vietnamese boat convoys—40 to 50 boats each—arrived in Tonle Sap area via Phnom Penh.

The number of Vietnamese nationals along the Tonle Sap area has increased alarmingly within only a few days. That is, the Vietnamese sent about 3,000 to 5,000 new men to settle the Tonle Sap area only within a week.

II. We noticed that these Vietnamese nationals came in a well-organized way. That is, they came in convoys and in the form of well-organized troops in a state of combat readiness. Moreover, they always move about in groups.

III. Why have the Vietnamese carried on the plan to send their men to invade our country immediately after the elections and after the formation of our provisional government?

In our opinion as common people, others might also think likewise, the Vietnamese have done this because they realize that:

A. They and their puppets still control all power through all aspects of their structures, particularly through the forces for cracking down on the troops and police and through their secret leading organizations in all fields.
B. FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independence, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia], which won the elections, can not harm them. Its members in various provinces and districts have been attacked and killed daily by the Vietnamese and their puppets.
C. The Vietnamese puppets continue to play their legal role in the two-headed government. The old laws—that is, Vietnamese laws— are maintained. This means that all treaties signed between the Vietnamese and their puppets remain intact.
D. The state authority structures from Phnom Penh down to village levels are all controlled by the Vietnamese and their puppets.
E. The allies want the Vietnamese forces to continue their aggression and occupation of Cambodia for serving, together with the puppet forces, as (?a bridge) for them to come to Cambodia.

All of this is the reason why the old and new Vietnamese have been so arrogant. As a matter of fact, they make an outcry over small matters such as being pricked by a thorn. In response to this outcry, the allies inside and outside UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] immediately call for help for the Vietnamese. At the same time, the allies raise slogans about human rights and humanity to gag the others from raising this Vietnamese issue and even to make others echo their call for help for the Vietnamese.

IV. We again would like to make it clear that we voted for FUNCINPEC because we want this party to make the Vietnamese leave Cambodia and to reconcile all Cambodians. But since the Vietnamese question—old and new Vietnamese forces, state authority structures, troops, policemen, and laws—remains intact, what will happen to the Cambodian nation and people? Should we stand still with folded arms and get killed or should we struggle for our life?

The Cambodian people would like to stress once again that the entire Cambodian nation and people want peace, independence, sovereignty, and national reconciliation as in the prince father's suggestion to draft the national constitution. But, the road we are taking is still very long because the Vietnamese communists are still everywhere and are implementing their strategy to annex Cambodia through their top-to-bottom state authority structures.

For this reason, do not be misled by any illusion. Do not forget that old and new Vietnamese are still everywhere.

Indonesia

Minister Against APEC Forum Being 'Institutionalized'

BK1108054393 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Indonesia will support the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation [APEC] forum provided it is not institutionalized. Indonesia's support was stated by Hartarto, coordinating minister for industry and trade, after addressing the conference entitled: "Indonesia, the Asia-Pacific Region, and the New World Order." The meeting was held in Nusa Dua, Bali. According to Hartarto, Indonesia must take preparatory measures to anticipate possible changes after the APEC forum is established. Indonesia attaches paramount importance to the forum because 65 percent of its nonoil and nongas exports go to Asia-Pacific markets. In addition, the exports are increasing at a relatively high level. For Indonesia, an open APEC forum instead of a trade bloc will, in fact, be very advantageous.

Commentary Hails Asia-Pacific Conference

BK1008024693 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] President Suharto has attached importance to efforts to maintain stability and peace in the Asia-Pacific region to spearhead the world's economic growth and set an example of healthier, fairer multilateral trade. Compared with other regions, the Asia-Pacific region enjoyed more dynamic development in the last decade. Subsequently, this has enabled countries in the region to enjoy relatively better economic growth. Indonesia's economy grew by an average of six percent annually during the last decade. The conference—titled "Indonesia, the Asia-Pacific Region, and the New World Order" and held in Nusa Dua, Bali—is indeed marked by optimism expressed by over 400 figures from Asia-Pacific countries grouped in APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation]. The key to its success is the common determination of all members to develop mutually advantageous cooperation without belittling the significance of existing regional groupings. This means that APEC will not dilute the identity of the existing regional groupings. APEC has become more flexible because there is a consensus that the forum will not become a closed trade bloc.

The Nusa Dua conference is also timely in view of some new developments that require our attention. They are the results of the G-7 [group of seven industrialized nations] summit in Tokyo, the U.S. economic policy under Bill Clinton, the leadership change in Japan, and the U.S.-sponsored APEC informal meeting in Seattle next November. Basically, dialogue forums for economic cooperation are now more interesting than those dealing with political, defense, and military matters during the post-Cold war globalization era. As chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, Indonesia has a stake in boosting its stability and economic growth within the framework of South-South and North-South cooperation. This stance is based on its awareness that interdependence among nations during the era of globalization is inevitable. What should be done is to develop an appropriate system for economic and trade cooperation by taking into account the condition of each nation. If APEC grows healthily without undermining the interests of ASEAN and the East Asia Economic Caucus, it will thereby be able to set an example of how to develop healthier, fairer economic cooperation in an atmosphere of peace and in the absence of any fears that a strong nation will dominate a weak one.

Australia's Evans Meets Suharto, Comments on APEC

BK1108074793 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Australia has denied that the Asia-Pacific Economic Community [APEC] that will be established will only benefit its large member countries. Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans made the denial when replying to questions by reporters after calling on President Suharto at the Bina Graha Presidential Office in Jakarta this morning. According to Gareth Evans, small- and medium-sized APEC member countries will instead be able to cooperate on influencing big countries. Australia, a large developed country, is still facing difficulties in exporting its products to the United States. The Australian foreign minister hoped that the APEC will not be equated with the EC. APEC will have no power to dictate to its members.

On Australian-Indonesian relations, Evans said that bilateral relations are very good as demonstrated by an increase in the trade volume from U.S. $1 billion to U.S. $3 billion over the past four years.

Minister on Adoption of 'Limited Open Sky Policy'

BK0608095393 Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian 15 Jul 93 pp 1, 6

[Text] Dr. Haryanto Dhanutirto, minister of communications, said that the government has decided to adopt a limited open sky policy, which would basically give more freedom to countries generating tourists.

Opening a one-day seminar at the Jakarta Hilton on Thursday concerning the Open Sky Policy and the Implications Concerning Competition for the National Airline, the minister said Indonesia was to go over to the limited open sky policy in dealing with airlines from certain countries.

Under the scheme, first: Indonesia would continue its policy of limiting the frequency of flights of foreign airlines and the types of airlines. Second: It would allow more relaxed procedures when negotiating interlinkages with airlines from tourist-generating countries. In other words, this is to provide air traffic to the airline concerned on the basis of mutual benefit. Third: It would encourage national flag carriers to look for opportunities to operate in international markets.

Continuing, the minister said the government will immediately take measures to lift some restrictions to chartered flights from tourist-generating countries. He said the government will also impose more relaxed procedures on the national airlines operating international charter flights carrying tourists from their countries of origin to Indonesia. The government will stick to the "point-to-point" basis, whereby foreign airlines can only fly to one airport in the country and are barred from serving routes within the country.

Zainuddin Sikado, director general of Air Transportation, told the seminar that basically Indonesia does not practise an "open sky policy" in its air transportion system because this would lead to stiff competition among the airlines operating in the country. The bigger airlines will bully the smaller ones and thus the national airlines will be at a disadvantage. He said the national airlines are relatively weak compared to foreign airlines.

"The weaknesses of national flag carriers lie in the quality and quantity of their fleets. In view of this, if the government adopts an open sky policy, there would be a possibility that the bigger airlines would dominate the market, and the profit from our market segment will go to foreign airlines," he added.

According to Sikado, moreover, the principle of an open sky policy will not be profitable to the national airlines and is against Indonesia's sovereignty and archipelagic concept, which involves the consideration that the government should develop and open up isolated areas that have political significance to the country.

Sikado also cited the potential risks facing the Indonesian people when they are exposed to widely spread foreign socio-cultural values once the open sky policy is introduced. He said this sort of problem is difficult to control.

Democratic Party Chairman on Legal Problems

BK0808073393 Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 24 Jul 93 p 29

["Excerpts" of interview with Suryadi, chairman of the opposition Indonesian Democratic Party, by TEMPO correspondents Bersihar Lubis and Sarluhut Napitupulu in Medan on 17 Jul]

[Text] [Correspondents] ABRI [Indonesian Armed Forces] Commander General Feisal Tanjung said a person with a "legal defect," namely, a person suspected in a kidnapping case, is not qualified to be a party chairman. Your comments?

[Suryadi] His statement is correct, but can you describe a witness in a court trial as being a person with a "legal defect?" It is the prerogative of the court to pass its judgment. I have been named as a witness, not a defendant. These are two different things.

[Correspondents] You have been named as a witness. Do you view this as a kind of maneuvering to discredit you?

[Suryadi] Something seems to be behind it and it is hard for me to say that things are quite normal these days. I found it strange to hear the claim made by one witness who said that I had bribed him so he would testify in my favor. This is not true.

[Correspondents] What is not true?

[Suryadi] I have indeed given these people 50,000 rupiah to repair the Daihatsu Zebra car belonging to the party. The car was donated by the State Secretariat and had been used to pick people up from court hearings. I gave them the money because the car was dented in a traffic accident. Other people gave them 150,000 and 250,000 rupiah in the form of Lippo Bank checks. I had nothing to do with the two checks.

[Correspondents] You seem to have lost the party's support. Has anybody urged you to withdraw from the party nomination?

[Suryadi] Nobody has thus far urged me to withdraw from the party nomination. God willing, I hope nothing of that sort will happen.

[Correspondents] Do you have any plan to step down?

[Suryadi] Up to now I have never thought about it.

[Correspondents] Your staunch supporter Alex Asmasubrata has asked you to step down....

[Suryadi] Do you think the congress will listen to one person's views only? We have worked hard to make preparations for the congress and have invited party executives from 303 branches; how come only one person will make the decision? This is especially improper because Alex is from the party's regional chapter. As you know, those who have the strongest clout in the congress are from the party branches. Besides, Alex has no right to represent the Jakarta regional chapter because only two of five Jakarta branches support him.

[Correspondents] People think that you will face the same fate as Jaelani Naro, former chairman of the PPP [United Development Party], who had to step down because the government did not endorse him.

[Suryadi] I have had a long career as a politician—that is, since 1965—but I do not know how to answer your question. Perhaps this is one of the dimensions of our political life which not everyone can live up to. I got myself too much involved in the party's internal affairs and visited party branches to the extent that I was unprepared to face this situation.

[Correspondents] In the North Sumatera gubernatorial election, it turned out that the candidate backed by ABRI had lost. Will such a miracle happen in your case?

[Suryadi] I do not want to make any predictions. I endorse and support all ABRI's moves. As party chairman for seven years, I stressed to the party members the importance of understanding ABRI's dual function concept, and my efforts seemed to bear fruits. You might as well remember that the Indonesian Democratic Party was the first party to nominate former ABRI Commander Gen. Try Sutrisno as vice presidential candidate. This shows our party's great concern with ABRI.

[Correspondents] Are you still confident the party congress will proceed smoothly without outside interference?

[Suryadi] We have made serious efforts to develop a sense of independence within the party. Therefore, we hope this congress will be self-reliant. We also believe the government will give its assistance to make this congress proceed without external assistance. Even President Suharto himself said, when we reported to him on the congress preparations, that the government will make no interference. Home Affairs Miinister Yogie S. Memed also said there will be no foul play. Brigadier General Syarwan Hamid, chief of the ABRI Information Service, said no candidate will get special favors. So, all these statements have become our guideline.

[Correspondents] How do you view other candidates, including Buhi Harjono, who believes he has become an alternative candidate?

[Suryadi] Basically I appreciate their intention and conviction to nominate themselves. As for the election, let the representatives of PDI branches make their decision during the congress.

[Correspondents] Are you ready not to be reelected?

[Suryadi] I am always ready to be renominated. Whether I will be reelected or not is something else. The post of party chairman is not my ultimate goal.

* Police Raid on 'Afghan' Extermist Group

93P50260A

[Editorial Report] London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic on 31 July carries a report from its Jakarta and London bureaus that police had raided a stronghold of Muslim extremists in Jakarta, killing 4 and wounding 22. The daily carries a statement by a police spokesman that the "Afghans" (Indonesians returning from participation in the Afghan conflict) had attacked tourist buses and hotels and had tried to terrorize the people of the villages near the capital. He said that the police had arrested the leader, whose movement name is Abdul Monan.

The government decided to raid the "Afghans" after receiving reports that the extremist group was planning a series of attacks coinciding with similar military operations by "Afghan" groups in Aceh Province in the country's far west.

The "Afghan" uprising began in Aceh in 1989 after their return from Afghanistan and Pakistan. They soon began attacks on military posts in this district.

According to the estimates, more than 2,000 people have been killed, among them a large number of police. Until recently there have been no contacts between the radical movement in Aceh—named Aceh Merdeka—and the group that is active near Jakarta itself. However, it seems that the two groups have coordinated their activities in attacking foreigners, and especially tourists, in order to ruin Indonesia's efforts to attract foreign investment.

On 5 August AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT carries a second report from Jakarta on the police raid, noting this time that five "extremists" were killed, including Abdul Monan. The police said that the "Afghans" had spread "a reign of terror" through Majalenka, about 180 km from Jakarta. The number of "Afghans" arrested was not disclosed.

The paper cites observers as saying that this is the first step by the police in dealing with a number of extremist organizations led by those who fought in Afghanistan. However, the force used against the movement caused an outcry among several moderate Islamic groups. Ali Sjafei, leader of the Nadhatul Ulama movement, said on 4 August that the police violence was excessive. He added, "The news coming from the area indicates that the people are in a state of fear because of the police and the army, to the extent that they will not come out of their homes. For this reason, the government must practice self-control."

Laos

Defense Minister, Delegation End Thailand Visit

BK0908101193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 9 Aug 93

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Lieutenant General Choummali Sai-gnason, national defense minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and chairman of the Lao-Thai General Border Peacekeeping Cooperation Committee [GBPCC], concluded his official visit to the Kingdom of Thailand and returned to the capital of Vientiane at noon on 7 August.

During the visit, H.E. Lt. Gen. Choummali Sai-gnason paid a courtesy call on H.E. Chuan Likphai, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand. The Lao minister also met with H.E. General Wichit Sukmak, Thai defense minister, and H.E. Air Chief Marshal [ACM] Woranat Aphichari, supreme commander of the Kingdom of Thailand and chairman of the Thai-Lao GBPCC. The meeting was attended by high- ranking military officials from all three Thai armed forces.

During the meeting, H.E. Choummali Sai-gnason, H.E. ACM Woranat Aphichari, and the Lao and Thai delegations discussed and exchanged views on several major issues. Particularly, both sides highly valued the cooperation recently in maintaining peace and order along the Lao-Thai border.

Following the discussion, the two sides signed an agreement establishing the Lao-Thai general border peacekeeping cooperation subcommittees [GBPCS]. The secretaries of the above-mentioned committees were appointed chairmen of the subcommittees. The chairmen of each subcommittee will inform one another later of the names of the appointed vice chairmen and other members of the subcommittees through letters. The main rights and duties of the Lao-Thai subcommittees are as follows:

1. Organize meetings to discuss and follow up the results of each side's operations in line with the guidelines and policy previously set by the Lao-Thai GBPCC. Evaluate the border situation in each period and report to the committees so that they will be able to set further appropriate plans.

2. Assist coordination between the border peacekeeping cooperation committees at the provincial and national levels to make them comply with the guidelines fixed by the Lao-Thai GBPCC.

3. If both sides think that a major problem along the Lao-Thai border needs to be urgently solved to prevent the situation from deteriorating, both sides may agree to carry out joint control and inspection operations and set up ad hoc committees for province-to-province border peacekeeping cooperation in specific areas.

4. The subcommittees may invite representatives from agencies concerned from both sides for consultations in order to help find ways and means to maintain peace and order along the border.

In addition, the meeting of the Lao-Thai general border peacekeeping cooperation committees also reached agreement as follows:

1. The subcommittees will hold four meetings a year, or every three months, rotating venues between the LPDR or the Kingdom of Thailand, which the subcommittees agree upon. In an urgent case, an extraordinary meeting may convene.

2. Each meeting is to be attended only by members of both sides' subcommittees. If necessary, representatives from the Lao or Thai agencies concerned may be invited to attend with the consensus of the chairmen of both subcommittees.

3. Minutes of the results of each meeting are to be kept in the reports of the chairmen of the subcommittees of both sides.

At Wattai Airport, H.E. Choummali Sai-gnason and his delegation were received by H.E. Lt. Gen. Siphon Phalikhan, deputy minister of national defense, and a number of high-ranking military officers from various armed forces in the Ministry of National Defense. H.E. Nikhom Tantemsap, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to Laos, and cadres and government officials from various sectors concerned and of the Thai Embassy were also on hand at the airport.

Premier Issues Instruction on Corruption

BK1108051593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Instruction issued Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon on 19 March to all ministers, chiefs of state committees, provincial governors, and lord mayors on suppressing and preventing corruption]

[Text] To translate the party's guideline on comprehensive restructuring mentioned in the resolution adopted at the 5th party congress into a practical detailed plan, the government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] has implemented a policy of restructuring the mechanisms of economic, state, and social management as well as a policy on improving relations and cooperation with other foreign countries aimed at rapidly attaining national development to conform to the internal and international situation in the new period.

The party's guideline and the government's policies mentioned above have also been clearly stipulated in the LPDR Constitution. In consequence, several decrees, instructions, regulations, and detailed recommendations have also been promulgated by the government, including the Criminal Code, the Foreign Investment Law, a decree on land management, a decree on business enterprises, a decree on the mangement of forests and forested land, a decree on the state's tax system, and many other decrees. All these form a strong legal foundation for organizing, implementing, and realizing the party's guideline on comprehensive restructuring.

In recent years, all ministries and services in all localities have persisted in implementing socioeconomic development plans with all the potential of the country, mobilizing funds from all economic sectors, acquiring assistance and long-term loans with low interest rates from the international community, establishing cooperation ventures with many foreign companies, and permitting foreign capitalists to directly invest in Laos. Hundreds of billions of kips have been spent for building the infrastucture with fundamental facilities for producing agricultural products into commercial goods such as hydroelectric facilities, communications routes, mechanized farm tool units, communications and transport equipment industrial plants, schools, and hospitals. Many projects and enterprises have already been completed and effectively put into use, thereby gradually changing the economic and financial status of our country and the people's living conditions for the better.

In parallel with such gains, we have also encountered numerous remaining weak points. For example, several construction projects have been delayed or unfinished, or finished but with mediocre quality and low efficiency. Others have operated at a loss or with minimal profits because of rising expenditures and extravagant spending. All this has caused great loss to our investment capital. In addition, many important projects with international aid or loans have also been failures due to poor and unbalanced management. When accounting for such investment is conducted, results show that refunding cannot be achieved. A large number of trading companies have carried out illicit trading transactions and avoided paying taxes to the state. Such phenomena have delayed our socioeconomic development. If allowed to continue, this will become an obstacle to successfully implementing the socioeconomic development plans from now to the year 2000.

One of the primary causes of these remaining weak points is a phenomenon of increasingly rampant corruption practiced through various forms and in different degrees of seriousness among our cadres. Some examples of such corrupt practices are:

1. Direct embezzlement of state property by seizing favorable opportunities and conditions or by developing an inside policy to share benefits among themselves for vested interests in defiance of state regulations.

2. Taking bribes from trading companies and businessmen in return for cooperation in granting contracts and concessions or giving favors to them in defiance of state regulations and laws.

3. Pillaging state, collective, and personal property through technical and academic manipulation, calculation, and repair techniques, such as by calculating various construction projects without using proper technical standards, giving false prices, tampering with documents, and redirecting state funds to other projects for vested interests.

4. Conducting illegal trading and smuggling, evading taxes, and refraining from paying obligatory taxes to the state.

Acts of corruption are fraudulent and harmful to society. They cause losses to state property and money and dishonesty and lack of quality among cadres. They cause people to lose faith in the party and government and create loopholes for hostile forces to seize opportunities to undermine our new regime. If these acts are not rectified, our political system will be adversely affected and our country may become bankrupt.

Therefore, in order to suppress and prevent corruption of all forms, the prime minister of the LPDR has issued the following instruction:

I. Firmly grasp and appreciate the following objectives and guidelines in suppressing and preventing corruption:

A. Objectives

1. Suppressing and preventing corruption is a turbulent revolutionary struggle between right and the wrong. It is done to thwart the enemies' scheme of effecting peaceful changes in the country. The enemies regard corruption as a weapon for rapidly changing our cadres to lose their true revolutionary nature.

2. Suppressing and preventing corruption is aimed at ensuring that party policies and guidelines and state regulations and laws are safeguarded and strictly and effectively implemented to bring genuine benefits to our society.

3. Suppressing and preventing corruption is aimed at protecting and educating cadres at all levels and of all ages and sex to remain honest and faithful, to firmly maintain their revolutionary qualifications, to firmly adhere to discipline and regulations, to remain alert in strictly abiding by the laws, and to command respect from the people.

4. Suppressing and preventing corruption is aimed at protecting the state, collective, and people's property and money so that they can be fully and efficiently utilized for national construction and development.

B. Guidelines

1. Internal unity must be highly enhanced in the leadership at all levels regarding party policies and government instructions on the suppressing and preventing corruption. Similar practices must be systematically carried out from the upper down to the lower levels in a complete, comprehensive, and regular manner.

2. Ideological and political study on this matter must be launched to enable all cadres to understand and become vigilant in implementing the party's policies and guidelines and the government's laws and instructions. A policy must be implemented to commend honest cadres and to appropriately and promptly take disciplinary action against those who are dishonest.

3. The implementation [of this policy] must be carried out in a strict, drastic, but unfrenzied manner. Equality, justice, and reality must be ensured based on the principles of laws and regulations.

II. The following measures and methods of implementation must be firmly grasped:

A. Measures

1. In preventing corruption, efforts must be made to coordinate suppression with ideological and political study, upgrade and build the grassroots, upgrade state management mechanisms, and create unity among cadres of all ranks and of mass unity.

2. Cadres and state employees at all levels and in all services regardless of their ranks, duties, and positions must engage in a campaign to regularly and strictly review together the execution of responsibilities and tasks. Such a campaign must include acts of mutual criticism regarding the subject of corruption with definite objectives and which must be carried out on a

regular basis. Should a sign of corruption appear anywhere, it must be promptly prevented from the beginning.

3. State administrative organizations concerned must urgently draft laws and regulations on the management of state employees, money, and materials for adoption and enforcement. They must be strictly implemented by cadres and extensively popularized among the people to enable them to have a basis in expressing views to criticize the work of state cadres.

4. The administrative apparatuses at all levels and cadres and technocrats dealing with state administration regardless of their status and positions must, aside from their individual roles, obligations, and duties, have their own work and management regulations, meeting system, internal and external relations regulations, and reporting and survey system. The rights to make decisions in financial and economic issues and the standards and qualifications of all types of cadres must be clearly defined.

5. All collective business sectors and enterprises must have their own discipline and regulations which all cadres must strictly abide, ranging from directors downward, and use as a basis for mutual criticism regarding their qualifications.

6. Members of the National Assembly must act as eyes and ears in preventing corruption. Should they encounter or witness any acts of actual corruption, they have the duty of making comments on them and demanding an explanation from the government at a National Assembly session.

7. All accomplisments in suppressing and preventing corruption in each workplace must be made public by various forms and methods for acknowledgement by cadres, state employees, and people in order to instill in them a social sense of preventing corruption.

B. Methods of Implementation

1. The leadership at all levels must be highly determined and internally unified from the higher to lower levels. All services, ministries, localities, party and state organizations, and mass organizations at all levels must take the initiative in participating in the suppression and prevention of corruption. Urgent efforts must be made with a definite plan and content as well as detailed information on each case to organize a working team to carry out an investigation in any workplace where corruption is reported. In conducting such an investigation, complete circumstantial documents must be secured. A review and identification of each wrongdoing must correctly done so that appropriate and fair disciplinary action can be made in accordance with the nature of each lapse.

2. In conducting an investigation into a corruption case, the prime minister's instruction on suppression and prevention of corruption as well as a questionaire designed for accumulating detailed data must be extensively studied and profoundly popularized among cadres and state employees with a view to making them prudent and to taking the initiative to report and participate in the supression and prevention of corruption.

3. A state of tranquillity must be preserved in any organization in which a corruption investigation is carried out. It is totally prohibited to create a chaotic situation in any organization which may adversely affect operations, thus opening a weak spot for use by the enemies and bad elements for weakening and undermining our internal unity and slandering the party's and government's polcies.

4. Displinary action is classified into four levels:

—to examine, educate, and reprimand the culprit; to examine and make public his wrongdoing; and to return the property he has embezzled or swindled;
—to publicize his act of wrongdoing, to relieve him from his position and to force him to pay compensation for the property he has embezzled or swindled together with a fine;
—to file a case in court for legal action;
—to seize from him as state assets his property whose value is equivalent to that of the state property he has embezzled and swindled together with a fine.

All the property or money that a person has embezzled and swindled must be seized as state assets. If the embezzled property has been transformed, scattered, damaged, or used up, appropriate measures must be taken to force the person to pay compensation at the total value of the property under various forms, together with a fine.

To take disciplinary action against cadres and state employees who are party members or members of the party committees, first of all, it is imperative to discuss and assess the level of wrongdoing and then make a decision to take disciplinary action within the party in accordance with the authority and scope of the management of party members and the rules and regulations of the party. For the state, it must prepare all necessary documents and then take the wrongdoers to court for prosecution and imprisonment judgments in accordance with the law.

5. In carrying out an investigation and passing judgment on disciplinary action against the corrupt cadres, the ad hoc working units must effectively work in coordination with both the vertical and horizontal echelons in order to reach a high unanimity on all contents of work and methods of implementation.

6. In the initial stage, disciplinary action must be first experimentally performed in a certain area in order to gain experiences while cadres must be trained and plans must be improved to be in conformity with practical conditions. Implementation of disciplinary action can then be expanded to other areas, in particular toward organizations, targets, or individuals who are widely

criticized or complained about and those who become unusually and quickly rich in an easy way.

III. Guidelines and arrangements for implementation:

1. At the central level, an ad hoc committee will be set up. This committee is called the counter-corruption ad hoc committee which is authorized to independently carry out activities under the direct guidance and command of the central guidance committee and the prime minister. The said committee comprises seven to nine members altogether. It is also composed of an auxiliary apparatus and 25 to 30 technical cadres who are selected from the central-level control committee, the Interior Ministry, infrastructure building committees, courts, the public prosecution organization, the central organizing committee, and the finance ministry. The said committee has the duties of working out plans and directly carrying out inspection of various targets; guiding and working in coordination with the provincial-level countercorruption ad hoc committees in the technical field; and guiding, controlling, and following up activities of the countercorruption ad hoc units and cadres of various ministries, departments, and grassroots business production units in the center.

2. At the provincial level, each province is to set up its own ad hoc committee. The said committee will be appointed by the provincial governor and will comprise three to five members. It is also composed of seven to ten auxiliary cadres with standard qualifications who are selected from the provincial administration and various sections attached to the provincial administration. These auxiliary cadres are under the direct guidance and command of the provincial governor.

3. In various ministries and equivalent organizations, ad hoc units attached to the ministries or equivalent organizations are established. The ad hoc units are appointed, directed, and supervised by ministers. The central-level counter-corruption ad hoc committee is empowered to regularly inspect and follow up activities of the said working units.

4. In political establishments, provincial branches of service, business production units, and state technical institutes which are involved with the management of a large amount of state revenues, units of coordinating cadres, with two to three members for each unit, are to be set up to check and prevent corruption. The said coordinating units are appointed, directed, and supervised by the countercorruption ad hoc committees at the central and provincial levels together with ministers. The control and supervision in each step must be taken under the direct guidance and command of the prime minister or provincial governors. The ad hoc committees and the ad hoc working units at each level serve as auxiliary units for the prime minister and provincial governors to deal with the countercorruption work.

Upon receiving this instruction, all branches of service, localities, and grassroots are to organize to study, publicize, and implement it in a positive and fruitful manner, and then report the situation and results of the implementation to the prime minister.

Philippines

Ramos Discusses Relationship With U.S., Amnesty

HK0908132393 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0631 GMT 9 Aug 93

[Weekly news conference by President Fidel V. Ramos with unidentified foreign and local correspondents at Malacanang Palace, Manila—live, in English; passages within slantlines in Tagalog]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] I intend to designate Mr. Vicente Jaime as a member of the National Amnesty Commission. You will recall that I have already appointed attorney and former congressman Oscar Santos as presidential adviser on the peace process or PAPP effective 20 August. Now, Mr. Jaime will be working with Mr. Santos. This is just an announcement due to the fact that we have not yet [word indistinct] the National Amnesty Commission, but it is necessary for some of these gentlemen to start working together and coordinate with our predecessor organization, which is the NUC [National Unification Commission] and the NUC secretariat, and the review panels already named for negotiating for the government with the three groups of insurgents.

Vicente Jaime, right now, as you may recall, is the alternate Philippine director in the Asian Development Bank. He is a former secretary of finance and also a former secretary of public works and highways.

We have designated the advisers for the Philippine negotiating panel for the peace talks with the southern Philippines secessionists. These are advisers and they are Secretary Renato S. De Villa of the [Department of] National Defense, Senator Orlando Mercado, and Congressman Nur Jafar.

We have also designated three advisers for the Philippine panel negotiating with the Communist Party of the Philippines, New People's Army and the National Democratic Front. Again, these are advisers, and they are Secretary Frank Drilon of Justice, Senator Biazon and Congressman Jesus Dureza of Davao City. [passage omitted]

This is with regard to the proposed working visit to the United States. /This is a working visit. I repeat: a working visit./ [audience laughs] There are three key messages that we would like to communicate to our American friends and to U.S. officialdom, led by President Bill Clinton. First of all, the Philippines is successfully undergoing major political and economic reforms and, as a result, the Philippines deserves a second look. Next, the Philippines is competing for a dramatic return to a free-market economy. And third, the Philippines is a linchpin in Asia, which is the fastest growing region in the world. In short, to put it in one short, sweet phrase: Rethink the Philippines; we are back in business at the heart of Asia. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Good afternoon, Mr. President. The man on the street and I are not exactly conversant with the complex workings of the country's foreign debt. What we know is that during the regime of President Marcos the government has contracted some $27 billion in foreign debts. Since the government of President Cory Aquino up to now, these debts have ballooned to some $30 billion. Mr. President, despite the fact that we are paying 40 percent of the country's total budget [toward these loans], how come this has ballooned to $30 billion?

[Ramos] Well, in the first place, it is not 40 percent that we are paying for foreign debt servicing. It's much lower than that now. It has been reduced from 40 to 38 and is less than that at this time. What has increased is the debt for which there are very concessional terms. And what has very much declined is the component of the debt called the commercial component, the terms of which are very onerous. So in the commercial debt restructuring of 1992, the Philippines has been able to get much more concessional loans, longer periods of debt servicing, and these established once more the enhanced credit-worthiness of the Philipines in the international finance markets. There is no question that all countries are into debt, and in order to pursue our economic development, especially the putting in of nonexisting or the upgrading of obsolescent and putting up of new infrastructure where there are no existing infrastructures, is being pursued by this administration for which we need to borrow. [sentence as heard]

For example, the Pagbilao power plant—that is $818 million to produce 700 megawatts—is financed by a package of loans from the private banking sector, much more concessional than before, as well as official development assistance from various groups, but especially the government of Japan and Eximbank of Japan.

[Correspondent] A follow-up, Mr. President. In your forthcoming visit to the United States, do you intend to take up these foreign debts with President Clinton?

[Ramos] Well, I told you the main message that we are pursuing, because the debt aspect is just only a very, very small part of it. What is important is that we enhance our relationship on the basis of the Philippines being able to effect very basic political and economic reforms. Our new relationship will be on the basis of economic cooperation and mutual support, no longer aid or donation or doleout, but on the basis of partnership or equality as two sovereign nations. So that's the message.

[Correspondent] Mr. President, you met with the third highest country official of the People's Republic of China this morning. Sir, did you... [changes thought] what issue was discussed and what was featured in the bilateral talks?

[Ramos] Again we talked about general policies. And one of the most important was the reaffirmation by Chairman Qiao Shi of the National People's Congress of China's policy of peaceful resolution of conflict, especially that in which other members of ASEAN and other countries in Asia and the Pacific are concerned with, and this is the islands of the South China Sea—to reaffirm that policy on the part of China which was articulated during the ministerial conference of July 1992 hosted by the Philippines here in Manila.

Iraqi Official Seeks Help To Break Blockade

JN1108073993 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0610 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Manila, 11 Aug (INA)—[Iraqi] Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Sa'd 'Abd-al-Majid al-Faysal met in Manila yesterday with Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs Roberto Romulo.

They discussed bilateral relations and ways of enhancing them, in addition to international issues of common interest.

Sa'd al-Faysal also had talks yesterday morning with Rodolfo Severito [name as received], under secretary of the Philippine Foreign Ministry.

During the talks, al-Faysal reviewed the negative impact of the unjust blockade against the Iraqi people. He urged the Government of the Philippines to contribute to international efforts aimed at breaking the blockade, which has been in place for three years under a UN cover.

Sa'd 'Abd-al-Majid al-Faysal arrived in Manila on 9 August on an official visit to the Philippines at the invitation of the Government of the Philippines.

Chinese Legislators Agree To Promote Closer Ties

HK0908132893 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 1100 GMT 9 Aug 93

[Text] Senate President Edgardo Angara and Qiao Shi, chairman of the National People's Congress Standing Committee of the People's Republic of China, agreed today to promote closer relations between the Philippines and China.

This was the result of the meeting between the senators and Qiao, who came to the Senate with his delegation.

Angara said the Chinese and Filipino legislators also agreed to joint development of Spratlys, before taking up the issue of claims over the area.

Angara said he was invited by Qiao to China to form the bilateral parliamentarians' friendship society.

Accord on Refugees Reached With UK

HK1008141093 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] The Philippine and British Governments have agreed in principle to allow the temporary entry of more than 1,000 Indo-Chinese refugees into the country. It will be recalled that the British government earlier formally requested that the country to allow 1,000 Indo-Chinese refugees, now currently being held in Hong Kong, to stop-over in the country on their way to Britain.

According to Foreign Affairs Secretary Roberto Romulo, both governments are now only working out final details and other arrangements for the entry refugees. Future rounds of talks between the Philippine and British government will be on the possible time frame for the refugees stay at the Morong Processing Center in Bataan and the question of who shall pay for the expenses incurred by these refugees while at the processing zone.

Earlier, Alastair Goodlad, British Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, met with President Ramos on this matter.

Ramos Vows To Implement Land Reform Program

HK1008024593 Quezon City ABC-DWET Television in English 1300 GMT 9 Aug 93

[From the "ABC-DWET News Program"]

[Excerpt] President Fidel V. Ramos has said that while previous governments have failed in land reform, his administration will finally make it work. Mr. Ramos made this vow at a ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of the Agricultural Land Reform Code. The chief executive deplored the failure of past governments to implement land reform especially during the dictatorship of the late President Marcos. He said his government is determined to set up 1,000 agrarian reform communities by 1998 and to distribute some 220,000 hectares to farmers by next year.

[Begin Ramos recording] This government has the political will to pursue land reform relentlessly. We are undaunted by obstacles that keep us from freeing the Filipino farmer. [end recording]

However, at the Senate, Senator Ernesto M. Maceda said the government's Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program [CARP] has gotten nowhere since it was enacted into law in 1988. Maceda said that the law is riddled with loopholes and is influenced by landowners in Congress. Maceda said that after six years of the Aquino government, what was supposed to be a pace setter is now burdened with the inefficiencies of the implementing agencies. Hence, CARP has not achieved its vision of increasing productivity and social justice. [passage omitted]

Thailand

U.S. 'Colonial' Economic Ambitions Assailed

BK1108024793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 Aug 93 p 17

[Text] The Drug Study Group, a Thai nongovernmental organisation, says the United States will never be satisfied no matter how much the Thai Government yields in talks on pharmaceutical patent protection.

In a statement issued yesterday, the group accuses the United States of "colonialism" in trying to force the Thai Government to provide backdated protection for pharmaceutical products that were in the pipeline when the new Thai patent law took effect last year.

The group also accuses the Thai Commerce Ministry of succumbing to US "colonial" ambitions by sending Washington a draft of new compulsory licensing regulations before they were approved by the Cabinet and before the Thai public has had an opportunity to discuss the draft.

The regulations will set limits on the Government's powers to force pharmaceutical patent holders to license other producers if the patent holders are found to be exploiting their monopoly powers by over-pricing or withholding supply.

The study group's statement is a reaction to the Thai-US negotiations in Washington at the end of last month.

Following those talks, US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor announced on July 31 that he was extending for another 30 days his deadline for deciding whether to impose sanctions against Thailand, keep Thailand on the list of countries under immediate threat of sanctions, or drop Thailand to a category of offenders of lesser priority.

The statement's charge that the Americans will continue to raise an endless list of complaints about Thai trade policy comes from reports that the United States is now demanding import duty cuts on movies.

Although this issue had never received public attention, Thai officials said the United States has included it on a list of demands for some time.

"The nature of the negotiations shows that the United States is never satisfied and is forever making demands for its own interests, using trade threats as a tool. It is as if Thailand had already become an economic colony of the United States," the study group said.

The group also accused the Thai negotiators of exceeding the mandate granted to them by the Cabinet when they agreed to five to six years of what amounts to backdated patent protection for pipeline drugs.

This protection would be created through administrative and safety monitoring measures that would prevent competitors from copying the pipeline drugs even though these drugs had already been invented when the new law took effect last year.

"The Thai Government, especially the Public Health Ministry, should stand firmly against granting retroactive monopoly rights because the Public Health Ministry's safety monitoring programme must be based on technical merit without time conditions," the group's statement said.

"So long as the Thai Government stands firm on correct principles in its negotiations with the United States, the United States will be aware of the potential and wisdom of the Thai Government in maintaining what is correct in the world community. That will provide immunity against US unilateral actions that take the form of threats against an economic colony," the group said.

Slovak Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit 7 Aug

BK0808045493 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 8 Aug 93

[Text] The Foreign Minister of Slovak Republic Jozef Moravcik arrived in Bangkok yesterday for four day visit to Thailand as guest of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Slovak foreign minister is scheduled to visit places of interest in Bangkok today. Tomorrow, he will pay a courtesy call on Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and hold talks with Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri, Defense Minister Wichit Sukmak, and Deputy Commerce Minister Chaiyot Sasomsap. Foreign Minister Prasong will host a dinner party in honor of his Slovak counterpart tomorrow evening. On Tuesday, the Slovak foreign minister will meet Secretary General of the Board of Investment Sathaphon Krawitanon and visit the Department of Export Promotion's exhibition hall. Director general of the department Oranut Osathanon will host a luncheon for the Slovak foreign minister who will also pay a courtesy call on House Speaker Marut Bunnak and Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak.

Meets Chuan 10 Aug

BK1008013593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 Aug 93 p A2

[Text] Slovak Foreign Minister Jozef Moravcik Thailand and [as published] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai discussed strengthening relations and expanding economic ties during their talks at Government House yesterday.

Moravcik, who arrived in Thailand on Saturday, was due to meet his Thai counterpart Prasong Sunsiri later yesterday.

The Slovak foreign minister was due to leave Thailand on Tuesday for home.

Paper Views UNTAC 'Prejudice' Against Khmer Rouge

BK1108090393 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 11 Aug 93 p 8

[Editorial: "An Idea For UNTAC To Ponder"]

[Text] Although the election in Cambodia has passed, the Khmer Rouge problem and other political issues continue to affect Thailand. In particular, certain UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] officials continue to be prejudiced about Thailand's contact with the Khmer Rouge. Examples of this include its reaction to the Khmer Rouge taking into custody a number of UNTAC officials about 10 days ago, and the Khmer Rouge capture of Preah Vihear temple. A UNTAC spokesman prematurely concluded that there was collusion between the Khmer Rouge and Thai soldiers in those incidents. This prejudice of senior UNTAC officials arises from them jumping to their own conclusions.

If the UNTAC officials want to remove their prejudices they must try to understand Thai foreign policy, which certainly differs from what Westerners, who control UNTAC policies, are accustomed to. The Thai policy is to befriend every Cambodian faction, avoiding discrimination against any one of them, be it the Khmer Rouge, Hun Sen, Sihanouk, or Son Sann faction. Thailand wants the armed conflict in Cambodia to end completely and durable peace to materialize, in the interest of peace and development of the entire Southeast Asia region. This contradicts the Western view point, which discriminates against the Khmer Rouge and seeks to exclude it from the Cambodian administration.

This discrimination will not encourage peace. The Khmer Rouge, being in control of the western and northwestern areas of the country, will show its muscle and ability to create disturbances if it is excluded from national administration. Peace will never materialize if the world does not give Cambodians a chance to be reconciled. Therefore, the party obstructing peace in Cambodia is the group of countries seeking to exclude any Cambodian faction from the reconciliation process. This is what UNTAC must realize. it must also try to view the situation from a reverse angle.

The West despises the Khmer Rouge for its past atrocities. This attitude is bound to arouse prejudice against Thailand, seeing that Thailand does not share its anti-Khmer Rouge policy. Thailand's contacts with the Khmer Rouge (although it also has contacts with other Cambodian factions) are interpreted as support and sympathy for that group. In a way, it is unfortunate that the Thai border is beside the Cambodian area under Khmer Rouge influence. This proximity contributes to the assumption about the Thai support, despite Thailand's policy of befriending every Khmer faction.

UNTAC officials should look at Thailand from the Thai point of view, because the Western point of view is never going to create durable peace in Cambodia. They should support the Cambodian people's political reconciliation to solve the divisiveness and civil war. The exclusion of any Cambodian faction will prolong the conflict. This means that fighting near the Thai border will affect Thai villagers, who are already facing occasional harassment by Cambodian bandits. To sum up, it is better to encourage reconciliation by the Cambodian people than their confrontation.

25 Burmese Students Arrested at Embassy Rally

BK0908005793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Aug 93 p A4

[Text] Dissident students urging the overthrow of Rangoon's military government were arrested by immigration police at a rally outside the Burmese Embassy yesterday to mark the fifth anniversary of the bloody crackdown on the Burmese pro-democracy movement.

A statement from the All Burma Students' Democratic Front said Burmese "cannot dream" of democracy as long as the junta exists.

"In order to fulfill our historic duty we urge people from all walks of life to raise the democratic banner high uphold the spirit of 8888 (Aug. 8, 1988) and to continue the struggle until the military machinery is collapsed and democracy is achieved," the statement said.

It noted that while the junta has promised to transfer power to civilians after a new constitution is drafted, the junta has demanded that the new charter give the military the leading role in politics.

They also tried to deliver a letter to the embassy demanding unconditional freedom of all political prisoners including leading dissident, Aung San Suu Kyi, leader of National Liberation for Democracy Party, but no official came out to receive it

Immigration police detained 25 students they said were from the Maniloy holding centre in Ratchaburi province, which was opened for student-status Burmese last year.

A pregnant woman was released. The other protesters were expected to be sent back to the holding centre last night.

The arrested students are among 516 Burmese granted student status who are required to stay in the Maniloy "safe area" as it is officially termed.

The camp was set up by the government, apparently to prevent the students causing diplomatic embarrassment by participating in political activity against the Burmese military junta. However, only about 100 students have agreed to enter the camp.

Camp regulations allows the students set periods away from Maniloy, during which they can travel to Bangkok and other provinces.

The students yesterday held up the national flags of the United States, Japan, Malaysia, Switzerland, Canada and Thailand—the countries they said have supported their demands for the return of democracy to Burma.

About 30 representatives of Students Federation of Thailand [SFT] and anti-Slorc [State Law and Order Restoration Council] campaign groups joined the protest peacefully in the afternoon after the arrest of the Burmese.

They demonstrated with placards demanding "no more dictatorship in Burma" and "stop killing Burmese people".

The SFT had also planned to submit the letter to Burmese embassy, but again there was no-one to receive it.

"We also call on the United Nations every government and the people worldwide to pressure the military junta in any way to free political prisoners and to return democracy to the people," said SFT committee member Piraya Janraroen.

She said the federation will continue its activities against the military junta until it returns democracy to the Burmese.

Burma has been under military rule since 1962. The State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), the ruling military's official name, was formed with senior commanders in late 1988 after the armed forces ended months of anti-government unrest in the capital and other Burmese cities killing hundreds, if not thousands.

Army Chief Departs on Official Visit to Burma

BK0908092793 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 9 Aug 93

[Text] General Wimon Wongwanit, Army commander in chief, left this morning for an official visit to Burma to strengthen ties between the two countries. He will also discuss the border incidents with Burma. The Army chief is scheduled to return to Thailand tomorrow. He granted an interview to reporters at the Army Transport Department's airfield before his departure:

[Begin recording, in progress] ...to strengthen relations. In short, I am going to discuss things over drinks with them like friends. Whatever we have in mind, we will discuss it in a friendly manner. I have not paid an official visit to Burma since I became Army commander. It is the Army's policy to forge friendships with all countries. We—armies around the world—we have a similar tradition; a similar principle, or ideology. The best thing to do is to forge a better understanding, then we can seek to settle problems along the common border through discussion.

As everyone knows, the problem stems from the conflict of interests; from logging, from illegal practice by our own people. I have already said that I want our people along the border to abide by the law so that there will be no more problems. Burma understands when we explain to them, and they try not to create conflicts. But there are the resistance groups along the border and there is fighting. It is easy for misunderstanding to occur involving border incidents, but this is not a serious problem. We can always solve the problem by trying to reach out for mutual understanding. The problem is not that bad. [end recording]

Cautions Foreigners on Protest Rallies

BK1008015993 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 Aug 93 p A4

[Text] Foreigners who want to protest against their government should demonstrate in their own country and not in Thailand, Army Commander-in-Chief Wimon Wongwanit said yesterday before leaving for Burma.

He said political rallies by foreigners could cause conflict between Thailand and other countries.

On Sunday, Burmese students-in-exile rallied in front of the Burmese Embassy in Bangkok to mark the fifth anniversary of the bloody crackdown on the Burmese pro-democracy movement and to demand that the Rangoon military junta free all political prisoners including Aung San Suu Kyi.

Immigration police arrested 25 Burmese students, who were subsequently returned to the Maniloy holding centre in Ratchaburi province. [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English on 10 August, in a related story on p 6, adds: "The Interior Ministry yesterday threatened to take tough legal action against 24 [as published] Burmese dissidents arrested on Sunday during a protest in front of the Burmese embassy after they were found to be illegal immigrants.

"The 24 are still being held in detention and face a possible jail term for illegal entry, after which they will be allowed to go and live at the Maniloy Centre if they so choose.

"Illegal immigrants are normally detained for six months before being deported."]

He said he did not blame Burmese students for supporting human rights, but he did not want them involving Thai people in their conflict with the Burmese government.

Wimon is due to spend two days in Rangoon where he will hold talks with Burmese leaders on bilateral issues, including border problems and the relationship between two countries' armed forces. He said the differences between Thailand and Burma were not serious and a compromise was possible.

Problems about forestry concessions, for example, had arisen because Thai businessmen had smuggled cut logs across the border.

Defence Minister Wichit Sukmak, meanwhile, declined comment on the issue, saying the matter was the responsibility of the Interior Ministry.

Wichit said he did not want to say anything about the rally and subsequent arrests because the public might become confused as to which ministry was directly responsible.

Two New Burma Border Passes Approved

BK1108014993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 Aug 93 p 2

[Text] The cabinet yesterday approved the opening of two additional border passes on the Thai-Burmese border to allow Thai logging companies to import logs felled in Burma, Government deputy spokesman Montri Danphaibun said.

The opening of the border passes comes in response to a request by the Interior Ministry and National Security Council.

The first border crossing at Ban Thung Lat in Tambon Salui of Chumphon's Tha Sae District is for the Taksin Palm 2521 Company to transport 10,000 logs or 56,054 cubic metres of wood into the country. This border pass will be open for 18 months.

The second border pass at Ban Khao Nam Thun in Tambon Pak Chan of Ranong's Kra Buri District will be open for one year for the Chao Phraya-Irrawaddy Company to bring in 13,613 logs or 72,108 cubic metres of wood, Mr Montri said.

Defense Minister Reviews Visit by Lao Counterpart

BK0708143093 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 7 Aug 93

[Text] Thailand and Laos have agreed to set up an ad hoc subcommittee to deal with problems along the Thai-Lao border.

Defense Minister General Wichit Sukmak saw off Lieutenant General Choumali Saignason, Lao People's Democratic Republic national defense minister, at the airport late this morning. The latter has ended his visit to Thailand aimed at strengthening ties between the defense ministries of both countries.

The Thai defense minister told reporters that he exchanged views with the Lao defense minister on several matters, especially about problems along the border. He said that, in addition to the existing committees, they agreed to set up an ad hoc subcommittee to deal with problems along the border.

Labor Law Invoked To Order Factory Reopening

BK1108020593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Aug 93 p A1, A2

[Text] Interior Minister Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut yesterday used his power under the labour law to order the reopening of a textile factory which shut down last month following a workers strike.

Chawalit signed an order yesterday forcing the management of Thai Phatraphon Co Ltd to reopen its textile factory in Samut Prakan's Phra Pradaeng district to allow striking workers to resume work.

It is the first time that Article 35 of the Labour Act of 1975 has been used to end a labour dispute since the law was introduced 18 years ago.

The article empowers the interior minister to order an employer to rehire workers that have been laid off and to resume a business deliberately closed as a result of a labour conflict.

Hundreds of the factory's textile workers have been on strike since Oct 1 last year to demand better employment conditions and more fringe benefits. The factory's operation was affected by the strike but did not come to a standstill.

The workers later softened their stance and proposed to go back to work on Aug 1. But the company pre-empted their move by closing the factory on July 30, according to the order signed by Chawalit.

The textile company was one of 17 firms told by the minister on July 17 to re-hire striking workers.

However it did not comply with the order, said labour leader Somsak Kosaisuk of the State Railway of Thailand.

The demand, issued after a massive protest outside Government House by workers, was not made under Article 35. Instead it was signed by Chawalit in his capacity as interior minister to require cooperation from the employers.

At the time Chawalit said he would have to resort to drastic means if any of the companies ignored his order.

In signing the order yesterday, Chawalit said he was exercising his legal power under Article 35 to make Thai Phatraphon reopen its factory and take back the striking workers from Aug 16.

A government labour committee will mediate in further negotiations between the company and the workers to end the dispute as quickly as possible, the order said. It added that if the conflict continued it could badly affect the national economy and public order.

Applications Soar for Copyrights, Patents

BK0908011993 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Aug 93 p B2

[Text] Copyright owners parade to register their work as they perceive the advantages they will get under the protection of copyright law.

According to the Intellectual Property Department's figures, at least 675 proposals were received during the past six months, but so far only 10 passed the process and being registered.

Of the eight fields of literary and artistic works the Department opened for registration. Painting works received largest proposals of 486; only one is registered however.

Of 140 proposals going to seek copyright under musical works, only six have been registered. Three were granted copyrights out of 40 proposals filed under literary works. No one was granted a copyright from seven proposals asked for audio-video works and two under another category.

All of the works filed for copyright belong to Thais, said an Intellectual Property Department source, even though the department allows both Thai and foreign works to be registered.

"It may be because foreigners who own original work still do not know this information," the source said, the Department announced the registration since November 9, 1992.

Registration for patent is no lesser active. According to the Intellectual Property Department's figures, at least 444 applications are received for design patent during the last six months, up from last year's 329.

Applications for invention patent rise by 260 to 1,164.

"For patent registration, most works belong to foreigners rather than Thais, mainly because we are less developed in the invention field," the same source said.

Yet so far, only 80 and 113 proposals have been granted design patent and invention patent respectively.

At least 5,740 trademark owners filed for their trademarks being registered, up by 569 from last year. Only 3,590 trademarks have been registered so far.

Service trademark application record at 624 and only 220 have been registered so far.

Six applications filed for sharing trademarks. No one however is granted the registration.

Meanwhile, Deputy Commerce Minister Churin Laksanawisit said that the Thai government is continuously suppressing the intellectual property rights violation. Of the latest figures, police arrested 29 copyright violators in June and 31 in July and confiscated 1,889 copyright-violating items.

At least 223 violators under the audio-video copyright law were also arrested and 67,793 items were confiscated.

Concerning the copyright protection on computer software the United States still wants clarification, Churin said that as Thailand needs time to define to what extent the computer software is protected, the United States should understand this situation.

Editorial Views Criticism, Role of Press

BK1008020593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 Aug 93 p A6

[Editorial: "A Subservient Press Is Not a Matter for Pride"]

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai has become the second national figure to have made critical comments recently on the role of the press, particularly the print media. One notable sentence was that the local press has not been prepared to take criticism with a fair mind.

The comments were made just a few days after Army Chief Gen Wimon Wongwanit moaned that he was quite exasperated whenever he read about his own remarks as reported by newspapers as they were, he said, far off the original statements.

These comments, of course, were not just borne of idle allegations. Only too frequently they have been justified, and serve as a reminder for the press to evaluate its own performance. There remains the sensational press which thrives on exaggerated reporting, biased presentation, opinionated news reports disguised as analyses, and at times, unfortunately, a lot of nonsense. But there are also professional journalists and commentators who genuinely perform their role in a respectable manner. They are willing to live a world separate from colleagues whose practice of journalism is held in low esteem.

Professional journalists have not only been willing to hear fair criticism from the consumers of their products—to be precise, the public, comprising readers of print media and TV and radio audiences. They have also made periodic self-analyses and evaluations to maintain respectability as well as public acceptance. After all, survival of their establishments which are commercial undertakings, is also a significant factor.

Gen Wimon complained that he had been wrongly portrayed in news reports due to distortions and omissions. He said that on many occasions he could hardly recognise that it was himself who had made the statements referred to. This could not have been more true because interviewees are frequently quoted out of context, as a result of news editing and for the sake of sensationalism, by many practitioners of this profession, much to the detriment of the people involved. A simple solution for Gen Wimon is for him to be mindful about the issues he wants to comment and the manner he wants to make public statements. But self-restraint is primarily an effective method to prevent misquotes and misrepresentation of facts by journalists who take pleasure in setting up people for verbal duels and confrontation.

We agree, to a certain extent, with some of the comments made by the prime minister. We cannot, however, agree with him that the way the local press should behave is in the manner of journalists who are subjected to control and restrictions in neighbouring countries. Governments which want to muzzle the press are usually those with something, or a lot of things, to hide from the public. Such governments are restrictive about the freedom of expression and freedom of the press. They regard journalism as intrusive and a nuisance and by curbing their freedom demonstrate total disregard of the public right to know.

Journalists in some Asean countries have not been able to perform their role, which can truly serve the public as practised in western societies. It does not mean that they are content with such restrictions. The heavy hands exercised by authority are at times just too strong to resist.

The prime minister should not have suggested that he would be more comfortable in living with subservient press which wants to take any line given by government. It is not something Chuan should be proud of. This is also not a gain for the public. A courageous press can shape and reshape the fate of a nation.

In Thailand's modern political history, professional journalists have usually been ones who braved dictatorial figures and their cut-throats who wanted to suppress the people's call for democracy. Politicians, in most instances, would not stick their necks out without strong support from the press in do-or-die battles with despots.

Nearly 4,000 Ethnic Vietnamese Naturalized

BK0608014593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 Aug 93 p A3

[Text] Ethnic Vietnamese who are the grandchildren of refugees who settled in Thailand during the war against France are being allowed to take up Thai citizenship, an official source at the Interior Ministry said yesterday.

About 3,980 of these migrant grandchildren have been granted Thai nationality and the other 1,761 deemed eligible are being processed.

A ministry committee had determined, however, that Vietnamese who migrated to Thailand during the later war between North and South Vietnam, as well as their children, are not eligible to change their status.

The committee, comprising representatives from the Interior Ministry, the Foreign Ministry, the Defence Ministry and the National Security Council, had been considering the status of Vietnamese who have been settled in 11 northeastern provinces.

The official said about 8,000 Vietnamese migrated to Thailand during the war against the French with ended with the French defeat at Dien Bien Phu. Those migrants would not be allowed to change their nationality and become Thai nationals.

There were 27,000 children of Vietnamese migrants in Thailand, and 5,741 were grandchildren of migrants who fled during the war against the French. About 3,980 of these grandchildren had been allowed to take up Thai nationality, and the other 1761 were being processed.

Vietnam

Progress Viewed in Relations With U.S.

BK1008143593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] A 13-member delegation will be led by Mr. M. (Gibbons) president of the Commercial Sub-Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives [title as heard].

This is the first economic delegation of the U.S. Congress to come to Vietnam to enquire into the renovation policy, economic development, and trade and investment opportunities in Vietnam.

Within only one month, two U.S. high-ranking delegations have paid visits to Vietnam. Vietnam-U.S. relations are expected to become even busier. According a spokesman of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry, Vietnam has allowed three U.S. State Department personnel to enter Vietnam at anytime.

The British news agency REUTERS reported a U.S. delegation comprising 15 influential businessmen will pay a goodwill and fact-finding visit to Vietnam in October. This delegation will include the president of the U.S. Foreign Relations Committee, the former minister of trade, and many other senior American officials.

It will be the second senior business delegation to Vietnam after the visit to Vietnam by the delegation led Mr. Winston Lord in mid-July. These events show positive developments in relations between Vietnam and the United States.

These activities have been contributing to the process of normalizing the relations between the two countries and, first of all, they meet the interests of American businessmen. For many U.S. companies, each day that passes without the removal of the U.S. trade embargo means the chance of doing business with Vietnam is lost.

Religion Said Used To Promote Political Aims

BK1108080393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 9 Aug 93

[Article by Phan Hai Nam from the 9 August QUAN DOI NHAN DAN: "Are They Prompted by Religious Aims?"]

[Text] To believe in a certain religion is a spiritual need for many people. Churches and the faithful have freedom of religion provided that they keep their religious practices within the bounds of law and that their activities have no connection with political aims.

It is our party and state's unswerving policy to respect freedom of religion. As a result, we have rallied people of different religions into the all-people's solidarity bloc, creating an invincible strength for the struggle for national independence and construction.

In the framework of the cause of national renovation aimed at making the people rich and the country powerful, as well as at bringing civilization to society, our party has emphatically pointed out in its platform that to believe in a certain religion is a spiritual need for many people and that it is our party's unchanged policy to respect and guarantee citizens' freedom of religion.

Article 70, Chapter V, of the 1992 SRV Constitution clearly states that citizens enjoy freedom of religion and have the right to believe in a certain religion or, otherwise, that all religions are equal before the law and that places of worship are protected by law.

Our government has worked out practical policies and lines to institutionalize the above-mentioned principles and apply them to life. As a result, many pagodas and churches were rebuilt or renovated after suffering war damage. Catholic churches and Buddhist temples are now jammed with faithful on various annual ritual festivities.

At present, there are five major religions in our country and the number of faithful accounts for nearly one-third of our population. Among them, about 50,000 are Buddhist monks and Catholic priests, and another 50,000 are clergymen engaging in religious activities.

Our party and state's religious policy is aimed at improving the people's spiritual life, ensuring freedom of religion, and encouraging the faithful to be truly patriotic citizens as well as genuinely enthusiastic devotees.

Needless to say, our party and state's religious policy remains constantly unchanged, open, and straightforward. However, due to their inferiority complex toward the nation and new regime, as well as toward unity among the various religious sects, a number of religious leaders have taken advantage of the weaknesses and shortcomings displayed by certain local authorities to distort the truth about our party and state's religious policy, falsely accusing our regime of religious repression and so forth.

The information about those activities has been disseminated to the outside world and directed by reactionary Vietnamese organizations and nationals overseas to further complicate the situation and incite the public.

Over the past several months, under the cloak of the Vietnam United Buddhist Church in Exile, a number of Vietnamese Buddhist church leaders in the United States, France, Canada, and Australia have organized seminars, conferences, congresses, prayer sessions, and hunger strikes, or have sent petitions to such and such international organizations and governments to whip up a campaign to criticize and distort the truth about our party and state's religious policy. Worse still, they have cooked up many stories to falsely accuse our state of religious repression and of human rights violations.

Furthermore, they have gone to Vienna to take advantage of the International Conference on Human Rights to urge the world community to compel Vietnam to unconditionally release all political prisoners.

Despite the fact that they have been supported by a number of Western mass media, those activities cannot help deceive conscientious people or gain the support of broad sections of Vietnamese residents overseas for the simple reason that the perpetrators of these activities are prompted neither by religious motives nor by the interests of Buddhist faithful, but only by their personal ambitions and dark political schemes.

Ironically, the Russian Association for Democracy and Human Rights in Vietnam held a seminar in Moscow during 21-23 April 1993 under the theme of "Vietnam and Freedom of Religions" to release the so-called "Moscow Declaration on Human Rights, Freedom of Religions, and Democracy in Vietnam." The declaration was read by Vo Dai Ton on Radio Irina. This act has drawn suspicion among the people at large, especially on the objectives of the seminar and its organizers.

Evidently, the Russian paper PRAVDA on 30 June carried an article by (Pritular) saying: I just realized that in our Russian Federation there is an association struggling for democracy and human rights in Vietnam. This is a somewhat warmongering association because many of its members are the former Saigon regime's officials. These people have, on many occasions, launched infiltrations into Vietnam to carry out sabotage activities against the country with an aim to overthrow the present Vietnamese regime. One of these officials is Vo Dai Ton who has fled Vietnam to wave the punishment handed down on him by the Vietnamese court for his crime. Apparently, he was present in Moscow and read the declaration.

Seeing that Vietnam has successfully carried out its renovation undertaking which resulted in rapid economic development, stabilized currencies, and an influx of foreign investments and so forth, the reactionaries have shifted their attack on religion in Vietnam.

It is well-known to all Vietnamese patriots at home and abroad that only after undergoing three decades of arduous struggle, hardships, and sacrifices, can our people be able to regain national independence, national reunification, and the reunion of families and religious sects. This is a historic mission and a sacred aspiration of our people and religious sects.

After the reunification of Vietnam, the country has created conditions for the unification of various religious churches and associations. As a result, Vietnamese religious churches have integrated their devotees throughout the country under the supervision of the Vietnam Fatherland Front [VFF] to build a prosperous and powerful nation and to protect national independence. This is also the ideal concept of Buddhism and Catholicism as well as the aspiration of the religious faithful.

After national reunification, various Buddhist sects in Vietnam have been integrated into major churches, among them the Vietnam Buddhist Church [VBC]. However, a number of overseas Vietnamese Buddhist Church leaders have not yielded to reality and have tended to carry out activities running counter to history and the aspirations of the faithful. They demanded the dissolution of the VBC despite the fact that it was set up by the National Congress of Buddhist Associations throughout the country in November 1981, recognized by Vietnamese law, and that the VBC has become a member of the VFF and has effectively carried out its activities at home and abroad during the past period.

To carry out their schemes, these overseas Vietnamese Buddhist Church leaders set up a special committee for the struggle against what they called the tragedy of religious suppression in Vietnam and issued a declaration demanding that the Vietnamese state release all political prisoners and quickly dissolve the present dictatorial regime of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] in order to create conditions for the establishment of a democratic political foundation in Vietnam.

It is noteworthy that while these people claim that they are working for the sake of pure religion, they have demanded the dissolution of a legal Buddhist organization, the release of political prisoners, and, more seriously, the dissolution of the CPV leadership. Obviously, they have shifted to the political domain with the aim of attaining political objectives. It can be said that while preaching Buddhist beliefs, they have schemed to undermine Vietnam politically.

Let us review some of their acts to achieve sufficient grounds for a correct analysis. On the night of 22 June, at the (Crosei Holle) Park in Paris, a small tent was set up to house three Buddhist monks, namely Thich Minh Tam, Thich Anh Thien, and Thich Nhat Tran. They staged a fast in the tent, which was decorated with a banner which read: Freedom of Religion in Vietnam. Both sides of the tent were decorated with the Buddhist and the former Saigon regime's flags.

People wonder whether the fast conducted by these three Buddhist monks was aimed at truly fighting for freedom of religion in Vietnam or just for the objectives of some former Saigon regime officials who want to reestablish the regime in Vietnam with the yellow flag with three red stripes which the Vietnamese people called the swindler flag.

Recently, at the International Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, a number of Overseas Vietnamese Buddhist Church leaders such as Thich Tri Nguyen from Australia, Thich Ho Soat from the United States, and Thich Minh Ly and Thich Minh Xuan held a prayer ceremony to denounce the Vietnamese state for suppressing the Buddhist faithful and to draw the world's attention to the issues of human rights and freedom of religion in Vietnam.

Noteworthy is that at this prayer ceremony, the yellow flag with three red stripes was decorated on the table set for the ceremony along with the Buddhist flag and flowers and incense joss-stick while those standing around the three Buddhist monks were military officers of the former Saigon puppet regime. When asked by foreign newsmen about the objectives of the ceremony, they answered in a confusing fashion and afterward no one seemed to pay attention to this meaningless event.

It is necessary to say that our party and state have consistently respected the people's spiritual requirements, especially that of the religious faithful. Measures have been taken to create conditions for the faithful and religious sects to lead a peaceful life while being able to carry out their ritual ceremonies to enable them to take part in promoting national unity and, together with people throughout the country, to contribute to implementing the objectives of making the people prosperous, building a powerful country, and enhancing the society's civilization.

When people take advantage of religion, they tend to launch activities running counter to national interests and are at variance with the principles of Buddhism and Catholicism. Those who use religion to attain their own ambitions and carry out political schemes will sooner or later be rejected by religious associations and the faithful no matter how meticulous their schemes are. They will eventually lose their prestige among the faithful. The history of the Vietnamese nation and of religious churches has proven this as true.

Work Begins To Draft Communications Law

BK1108093193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] A project to develop the telecommunications law for Vietnam is now underway with legislation expected to be modelled on Australian law. A group of six Vietnamese delegates departed for Australia last week to attend a three-week study tour. The delegates were from the National Assembly, the Office of the Government, and the Directorate General of Post and Telecommunications. The tour, combined with a recent seminar by an Australian law firm, is expected to provide the basis for the drafting of legislation.

People's Court Tries Major Smuggling Case

BK0908145093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 8 Aug 93

[Summary] During 4-7 August, the Supreme People's Court sat in first and also final session in Ho Chi Minh City to try a major case of smuggling and bribe-taking involving a number of cadres of the Customs and Police Office at the Tan Son Nhat Airport.

"Eleven accused persons were brought to trial. They are Truong Thi Muc, a Hong Kong citizen; Henry Long Tai, a U.S. citizen; Tran Xuan Tuan, a police employee; Phan Anh Tuan, director of the Ho Chi Minh City Customs Office and his wife Tran Chung Ha; Lam Ngoc Cam Le, Nguyen Vu Chieu, Vo Chien Thang, and Pham Van Huong cadres of Tan Son Nhat Airport Customs Office; Nguyen Thanh Thuy and Phan Anh Tam respectively brother-in-law and younger brother of Phan Anh Tuan.

"The court jury stressed the seriousness of the case, saying it has adversely affected national prestige, security, social order, and safety, thus a serious penalty should be imposed on these offenders."

The court sentenced Truong Thi Muc and Henry Long Tai to life imprisonment on charges of smuggling plus 15 years in jail on charges of bribery, and a fine of 50 billion dong for Truong Thi Muc, and $6 million for Henry Long Tai. Phan Anh Tuan was sentenced to life imprisonment on charges of bribe taking; his wife Tran Chung Ha, to 13 years imprisonment for taking bribes. Their house and property were confiscated. Lam Ngoc Cam Le and Nguyen Vu Chieu were sentenced to 16 and 19 years imprisonment respectively on charges of smuggling and taking bribes. Vo Chien Thang and Pham Van Huong were sentenced to 6 and 11 years imprisonment respectively. Nguyen Thanh Thuy and Phan Anh Tam were each sentenced to two years imprisonment. As for Tran Xuan Tuan, although his crime is serious, he was sentenced to five years imprisonment because of his confession and assistance, which enabled the authorities to solve other smuggling cases.

Vo Van Kiet Receives ROK Corporation Head

BK1108142793 Hanoi VNA in English 1408 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA August [no date as received]—Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet received in Ho Chi Minh City this afternoon Mr. Chung Il-yong, chairman of the Halla Industrial and Commercial Corporation of the Republic of Korea who is on a visit to Vietnam to inquire into possibilities of cooperation with Vietnam. Mr. Chung

Il-yong pointed out that in its capacity as a major corporation of its kind in Korea, the Halla Corporation wishes to contribute to Vietnam's economic development throught its joint venture projects of mutual interest. He expressed his hope that during its visit, the corporation and Vietnam would reach initial agreements on cooperation and joint venture in the fields of their common concern.

For his part, Prime Minister Kiet welcomed the corporation's visit and encouraged it to enter into joint ventures in the fields needed by Vietnam namely the building of roads, harbours and electric power and cement plants.

Party, State Leaders Meet Veterans, Families

BK0908141993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 5 Aug 93

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, 5 August, the comrade party, state, and National Assembly leaders had a cordial get-together at the Presidential Palace with 63 delegates representing war invalids and dependents of fallen combatants who do an outstanding job in promoting economic development in the northern provinces.

Attending the get-together were Comrade Vo Chi Cong, adviser to the party Central Committee; Comrade Nong Duc Manh, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly; Comrade Nguyen Thi Binh, vice president of the state; and Comrade Pham The Duyet and Comrade Vu Oanh, members of the Political Bureau.

Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh and Adviser Vo Chi Cong commended war invalids and dependents of fallen combatants of both sexes for overcoming all difficulties and for doing an outstanding job in promoting economic development, thus proving themselves worthy of being called good examples for everyone to follow. The comrade leaders called on the administration at all levels and mass organizations to provide even better care and assistance to war invalids and dependents of fallen combatants, as well as create conditions for everyone to stabilize their daily lives and enrich themselves.

On behalf of the delegates, Uncle Hoang Lung, who is of the Tay ethnic group in Lang Son and also a war invalid and father of a fallen combatant, briefed the comrade party, state, and National Assembly leaders on his achievements. He also thanked the party and local administration and people for their concern for the well-being of war invalids and dependents of fallen combatants.

Comrade Vo Chi Cong, Comrade Nong Duc Manh, and Comrade Nguyen Thi Binh presented gifts of the president of the state to the delegates.

Nguyen Manh Cam Greets Japanese Counterpart

BK1108081693 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] On 9 August, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam sent a message of greetings to His Excellency Hata Tsutomo, who was recently elected Japanese Foreign Minister.

National Assembly Chair Applauds Japan's Doi

BK1008145193 Hanoi VNA in English 1430 GMT 10 Aug 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 10—Chairman of the National Assembly Nong Duc Manh on August 7 sent a message of congratulations to Mrs. Takako Doi on the occasion of her election as speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan.

Keating, Rabuka Talks Ease Trade Tensions

BK1108082093 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 11 Aug 93

[Text] The Australian prime minister, Paul Keating, has managed to defuse tensions with Fiji over a regional preferential trade access agreement. This follows talks at the Forum summit in Nauru between Mr. Keating and his Fiji counterpart, Sitiveni Rabuka, over the South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement or SPARTECA. Erina Reddan reports.

[Begin recording] [Reddan] It seems Mr. Keating can't put a foot wrong at this Pacific Island leaders meeting. He's even managed to deflect Fiji's criticism of Australia over its trade access agreement with the South Pacific. Fiji is pushing for easing of the rules of origin and is concerned that it will lose its market edge as Australia winds back its tariff protection. After talks, the two prime ministers agreed to share trade information. Australia also says it will review the SPARTECA agreement. Fiji Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka went away happy.

[Rabuka] I wouldn't even call it a debate. It was a very general discussion and I am happy with the outcome that we have achieved so far. [end recording]

Australia

Keating Leaves for South Pacific Forum in Nauru

BK0808072893 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 8 Aug 93

[Text] Australia's Prime Minister Paul Keating left Canberra today for Nauru to attend the South Pacific Forum Conference. Our South Pacific Correspondent Jemima Garrett says that, while there, Mr. Keating will be seeking a settlement of Nauru's claim for compensation for damage caused to the island by phosphate mining.

[Begin Garrett recording] Before Nauru gained its independence in 1968, an Australian Government company mined a third of the island leaving behind a moonscape of coral pinnacles. The Australian rehabilitation offer is believed to be worth up to $100 million. Nauru's chief secretary, (Kelly Amyu), says the International Court of Justice would be more generous and he would rather go to The Hague. Despite that, (Mr. Amyu) says he is confident Mr. Keating and President Dowiyogo will be able to sign the agreement when they meet tomorrow. Mr. (Amyu) says the majority of Nauru's negotiating team is happy with the package. [end recording]

Nauru

Australia To Pay 'Generous' Phosphate Settlement

BK0908090793 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 9 Aug 93

[Text] Australia has reached an out-of-court agreement with Nauru to settle a long-running dispute over damage caused by phosphate mining on the central Pacific island. Under the terms of the agreement, Australia has to pay A$107 million as compensation for damage to Nauru before it gained independence in 1968. The agreement was reached during talks on Nauru which is, this week, hosting the annual summit of the 15-member South Pacific Forum group of countries. Erina Reddan reports from Nauru.

[Begin recording] [Reddan] Announcing the generous compensation (?deal), Nauru's president, Bernard Dowiyogo, said he was more than happy with the package.

[Dowiyogo] Nauru looks forward to a march to the exciting future with the cooperation and the assistance which our people, our nation will be receiving from the government and the people of Australia.

[Reddan] Australia will pay up $57 million within 12 months and 50 more over the next 20 years. Nauru and Australia have also agreed on the declaration of principles at treaty level, including access to education, fishery surveillance, and development cooperation. Australia will ask Britain and New Zealand, its coadministrators of Nauru before the Pacific Island's independence in 1968, to share the cost of the settlement. [end recording]

The leaders of the South Pacific Forum member countries have been holding private talks today ahead of the official opening tomorrow of the two-day summit.

French Polynesian Proindependence Group Expelled

BK0808091293 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 8 Aug 93

[Text] Controversial international political issues have begun emerging in the lead-up to the South Pacific Forum Heads of Government Meeting which begins in Nauru on Tuesday [10 August]. The Nauru Government had expelled a proindependence delegation from French Polynesia which had been lobbying for support among conference delegations. Official said today, the just-proclaimed president and two ministers of the so-called French Polynesian Provisional Government had arrived last Sunday [1 August] and were expelled on Wednesday.

Observer status has already been granted by the forum to the Kanak Independence Movement in New Caledonia. The representatives of the Bougainville Revolutionary Army, (Moses Suvini), has arrived in Nauru on the flight from Fiji despite having been refused the visa by the Nauru Government. Despite objection from China, Taiwan is listed as in the forum's official program as one of the dialogue countries at the conference.